

1-1 By: Nelson, et al. S.B. No. 53  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 10, 2014; January 26, 2015,  
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Finance;  
 1-4 April 8, 2015, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 12,  
 1-5 Nays 0; April 8, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Nelson	X			
1-8 Hinojosa	X			
1-9 Bettencourt	X			
1-10 Eltife			X	
1-11 Hancock	X			
1-12 Huffman	X			
1-13 Kolthorst	X			
1-14 Nichols	X			
1-15 Schwertner	X			
1-16 Seliger	X			
1-17 Taylor of Galveston			X	
1-18 Uresti	X			
1-19 Watson	X			
1-20 West	X			
1-21 Whitmire			X	

1-23 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-24 AN ACT

1-25 relating to strategic fiscal reviews of state agencies and  
 1-26 programs.

1-27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-28 SECTION 1. Chapter 322, Government Code, is amended by  
 1-29 adding Section 322.0175 to read as follows:

1-30 Sec. 322.0175. STRATEGIC FISCAL REVIEW OF STATE AGENCIES  
 1-31 AND PROGRAMS. (a) The board shall perform a strategic fiscal  
 1-32 review for all state agencies currently the subject of Sunset  
 1-33 Advisory Commission review under Chapter 325, Government Code.

1-34 (b) The board shall prepare and submit a report of the  
 1-35 findings of the strategic fiscal review by September 1 of  
 1-36 even-numbered years to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker  
 1-37 of the house, Senate Finance Committee, and House Appropriations  
 1-38 Committee.

1-39 (c) The strategic fiscal review report will contain:

1-40 (1) a description of the discrete activities the state  
 1-41 agency is charged with conducting or performing together with:

1-42 (A) a justification for each activity by  
 1-43 reference to a statute or other legal authority; and

1-44 (B) an evaluation of the effectiveness and  
 1-45 efficiency of the state agency's policies, management, fiscal  
 1-46 affairs, and operations in relation to each activity;

1-47 (2) for each activity identified under Subdivision  
 1-48 (1), a quantitative estimate of any adverse effects that reasonably  
 1-49 may be expected to result if the activity were discontinued,  
 1-50 together with a description of the methods by which the adverse  
 1-51 effects were estimated;

1-52 (3) for each activity identified under Subdivision  
 1-53 (1), an itemized account of expenditures required to maintain the  
 1-54 activity at the minimum level of service or performance required by  
 1-55 the statute or other legal authority, together with a concise  
 1-56 statement of the quantity and quality of service or performance  
 1-57 required at that minimum level;

1-58 (4) for each activity identified under Subdivision  
 1-59 (1), an itemized account of expenditures required to maintain the  
 1-60 activity at the current level of service or performance, together  
 1-61 with a concise statement of the quantity and quality of service or

2-1 performance provided at that current level;  
2-2 (5) a ranking of activities identified under  
2-3 Subdivision (1) that illustrates the relative importance of each  
2-4 activity to the overall goals and purposes of the state agency at  
2-5 current service or performance levels; and

2-6 (6) recommendations to the legislature regarding  
2-7 whether the legislature should continue funding each activity  
2-8 identified under Subdivision (1) and, if so, at what level.

2-9 (d) The legislature may consider the strategic fiscal  
2-10 review reports in connection with the legislative appropriations  
2-11 process.

2-12 (e) Until the board has completed a strategic fiscal review  
2-13 under this section, all information, documentary or otherwise,  
2-14 prepared or maintained in conducting the strategic fiscal review or  
2-15 preparing the strategic fiscal review report, including  
2-16 intra-agency and interagency communications and drafts of the  
2-17 strategic fiscal review report, or portions of those drafts, is  
2-18 excepted from required public disclosure as audit working papers  
2-19 under Section 552.116. This subsection does not affect whether  
2-20 information described by this subsection is confidential or  
2-21 excepted from required public disclosure under a law other than  
2-22 Section 552.116.

2-23 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-25 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-26 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-27 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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