1-1 S.B. No. 2680 Bettencourt By: (In the Senate - Filed March 13, 2025; April 3, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Business & Commerce; May 5, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8, 1-2 1-3 1-4 Nays 3; May 5, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-7		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	Schwertner	X	-		
1-9	King	X			
1-10	Blanco	X			
1-11	Campbell	X			
1-12	Creighton	X			
1-13	Johnson		Χ		
1-14	Kolkhorst	X			
1-15	Menéndez		Χ		
1-16	Middleton	X			
1-17	Nichols	X			
1-18	Zaffirini		Χ		

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

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1-60 1-61 relating to the public information law.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 552.0031, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:

The attorney general may determine that a governmental (g) body is or has been temporarily unable to respond to a request for information due to a disaster or other event that prevents the governmental body from conducting business. On making a determination under this subsection, the attorney general may designate a day on which the governmental body's administrative offices are closed or operating with minimum staffing as a nonbusiness day. The attorney general may designate not more than 30 nonbusiness days for a governmental body under this subsection in each calendar year. The attorney general shall maintain on the Internet website of the attorney general for not less than two years information regarding each designation made under this subsection. The attorney general by rule shall establish procedures for making a designation under this subsection.

SECTION 2. Section 552.108(d), Government Code, as added by Chapter 986 (H.B. 30), Acts of the 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, is redesignated as Section 552.108(c-1), Government Code, to read as follows:

 $\frac{(c-1)}{(a)}$ [$\frac{(d)}{(a)}$] The exception to disclosure provided by Subsection (a)(2) does not apply to information, records, or notations if:

- a person who is described by or depicted in the (1)information, record, or notation, other than a peace officer, is deceased or incapacitated; or
- (2) each person who is described by or depicted in the information, record, or notation, other than a person who is deceased or incapacitated, consents to the release of the information, record, or notation.

SECTION 3. Sections 552.11765(a) and (b), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

In this section:

"license"] (1) "License" [means а license,

certificate, registration, permit, or other authorization that: (A) [(A)] is issued by a licensing authority [governmental body described by Section 552.003(1)(Λ)(i)]; and

(B) $\left[\frac{(2)}{(2)}\right]$ an individual must obtain to practice or engage in a particular [business,] occupation[τ] or profession.

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(2) "Licensing authority" means a department, commission, board, office, or other agency of the state that issues or renews a license.

(b) Except as provided by Subsections (c) and (d), information maintained by a governmental body that is a licensing authority [described by Section 552.003(1)(A)(i)] is confidential and excepted from the requirements of Section 552.021 if the information:

> (1)is a license application; or

- (2) relates to the home address, home telephone number, electronic mail address, social security number, date of birth, driver's license number, state identification number, passport number, emergency contact information, information of:
- (A) an applicant for a license issued by the governmental body;
- (B) an individual who holds a license issued by the governmental body; or
- (C) an individual who previously held a license issued by the governmental body.

SECTION 4. Section 552.321, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsections (d) and (e) to read as follows:

- (d) If a governmental body requests a decision under Section 552.301, a requestor may file suit under this section not earlier than the 45th business day after the date the attorney general receives the request for a decision. If the attorney general extends the period for issuing the decision as permitted by Section 552.306(a), a requestor may file suit under this section not earlier than the 55th business day after the date the attorney general received the request for a decision.
- (e) If the attorney general issues an opinion under Section 552.306 that information that is the subject of the opinion is within an exception under Subchapter C, in a suit under this subchapter there is a rebuttable presumption that the information is within the exception.

 SECTION 5. To the extent of any conflict, this Act prevails

over another Act of the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted

SECTION 6. Section 552.321(d), Government Code, as added by this Act, applies only to a suit filed under Section 552.321, Government Code, that is filed on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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