

**SUBJECT:** Excepting the disclosure of personal data by certain flood control districts

**COMMITTEE:** Natural Resources — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 8 ayes — Larson, Metcalf, Dominguez, Farrar, Harris, T. King, Price,  
Ramos

0 nays

3 absent — Lang, Nevárez, Oliverson

**WITNESSES:** For — Russell Poppe, Harris County Flood Control District; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Melissa Shannon, Bexar County Commissioners Court; Donna Warndof, Harris County Commissioners Court; Jim Short, Harris County, Texas; Bill Kelly, City of Houston Mayor's Office; Gabriela Villareal, Texas Conference of Urban Counties)

Against — None

**BACKGROUND:** Government Code ch. 552 governs access to public information held by or for a government body in the state.

Some suggest that public information accessed under the state's public information laws could be used to inappropriately solicit sales from flooding victims.

**DIGEST:** HB 3913 would except certain personal information obtained by flood control districts connection with operations related to a declared disaster or flood from disclosure under the state's public information laws. The exception would apply only to flood control districts located in a county with a population of 3.3 million or more (Harris County).

The bill would except from requirements for public availability information containing:

- a person's name;

- a home or business address;
- a home or mobile telephone number;
- an email address;
- social media account information; and
- a Social Security number.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019, and would apply only to a public information request received on or after that date.