BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center 76R5924 JD-D S.B. 744 By: Shapleigh State Affairs 3/23/1999 As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, a governmental body is not required to provide public information, such as voter registration applications containing home addresses and social security numbers, to an individual who is incarcerated. However, the law governing this issue, Section 552.028(a), Government Code, does not cover the legality of an incarcerated individual's agent, a mother or friend for example, requesting information. S.B. 744 clarifies that a government body is not required to provide information to an incarcerated individual's agent.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 744 clarifies that a government body is neither required to nor prohibited from disclosing certain information to the agent of an incarcerated individual.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Sections 552.028(a) and (b), Government Code, to exempt a government body from compliance with an information request from an agent of an incarcerated individual. Provides that Subsection (b), rather than Subsection (a), does not prohibit a government body from disclosing information to an entity described in Subsection (a)(1).

SECTION 2. Emergency clause. Effective date: upon passage.