

By: Olcott

H.B. No. 4884

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the operation of a fraud, waste, and abuse hotline and a duty to provide employees and the public with certain hotline information.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 38, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 38.0043 to read as follows:

Sec. 38.0043. POSTING FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE HOTLINE INFORMATION. Each public school and open-enrollment charter school shall prominently post the telephone number for the fraud, waste, and abuse hotline established under Section 321.024, Government Code, and information relating to reporting suspected fraud, waste, and abuse to the hotline:

(1) on the school's Internet website; and

(2) in each physical administrative office maintained by the school.

SECTION 2. Chapter 321, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 321.024 to read as follows:

Sec. 321.024. FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE HOTLINE; REPORT. (a) The State Auditor shall operate a telephone hotline for submission of reports of suspected fraud, waste, and abuse.

(b) The State Auditor shall refer each submitted report of suspected fraud, waste, or abuse to the appropriate state agency. On receipt of the report, the state agency shall investigate the

1 suspected fraud, waste, or abuse and on completion of the
2 investigation disclose the results of the investigation to the
3 State Auditor.

4 (c) Not later than September 1 of each odd-numbered year,
5 the State Auditor shall prepare and submit to the legislature and
6 each standing committee having jurisdiction over state agency
7 fraud, waste, and abuse a report summarizing:

8 (1) any reports of suspected fraud, waste, or abuse
9 submitted to the hotline;

10 (2) each state agency to which the State Auditor
11 referred for investigation a report of suspected fraud, waste, or
12 abuse; and

13 (3) the results of any investigation conducted by a
14 state agency after referral of a report of suspected fraud, waste,
15 or abuse.

16 SECTION 3. Subtitle B, Title 6, Government Code, is amended
17 by adding Chapter 674 to read as follows:

18 CHAPTER 674. INFORMATION RELATING TO FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE

19 HOTLINE

20 Sec. 674.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "state agency"
21 has the meaning assigned by Section [2054.003](#).

22 Sec. 674.002. REQUIRED INFORMATION ON FRAUD, WASTE, AND
23 ABUSE HOTLINE. A state agency shall provide to each new employee
24 the telephone number for the fraud, waste, and abuse hotline
25 established under Section 321.024 and information on the procedure
26 for submitting a report of suspected fraud, waste, or abuse to the
27 hotline.

SECTION 4. Subchapter F, Chapter 2054, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 2054.139 to read as follows:

Sec. 2054.139. REQUIRED POSTING OF FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE HOTLINE INFORMATION. Each state agency and local government shall prominently post the telephone number for the fraud, waste, and abuse hotline established under Section 321.024 and information on the procedure for submitting a report of suspected fraud, waste, or abuse to the hotline:

(1) on the agency's or local government's Internet website; and

(2) in each physical administrative office maintained by the agency or local government.

SECTION 5. Chapter 180, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 180.011 to read as follows:

Sec. 180.011. REQUIRED INFORMATION ON FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE HOTLINE. (a) In this section, "political subdivision" has the meaning assigned by Section 180.008.

(b) A political subdivision shall provide to each new employee the telephone number for the fraud, waste, and abuse hotline established under Section 321.024, Government Code, and information on the procedure for submitting a report of suspected fraud, waste, or abuse to the hotline.

SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.