

**SUBJECT:** Listing state agency numbers in telephone directories

**COMMITTEE:** State Affairs — favorable, with amendment

**VOTE:** 11 ayes — Wolens, Alvarado, Brimer, Carter, Counts, Danburg, Hilbert, Hunter, D. Jones, Longoria, Ramsay

0 nays

4 absent — S. Turner, Craddick, McCall, Stiles

**SENATE VOTE:** On final passage, April 11 — voice vote

**WITNESSES:** None

**BACKGROUND :** The General Services Commission (GSC) maintains and publishes the phone directory for the Capitol complex and other Austin-area agencies as well as all state agencies in Texas that use the Tex-An long-distance phone service. This information is placed on the Internet, as well as in the Blue Pages of local telephone directories.

**DIGEST:** SB 897, as amended, would require the Records Management Interagency Coordinating Council to categorize state agency programs and telephone numbers by subject matter as well as by agency. State agencies would be required to cooperate with the council in providing necessary information to perform this function.

Public Utility Commission (PUC) rules would have to require publishers of telephone directories to list the number for state government information and to list numbers alphabetically by the subject matter of agency programs as well as alphabetically by agency.

Telephone directories published by the GSC would have to be revised regularly and list the state telephone numbers alphabetically by subject matter as well as by state agency. The listing would have to be consistent with the categories developed by the Records Management Interagency Coordinating Council (RMICC). The commission could authorize a yellow pages advertising section in state telephone directories to recover their

development, publication and distribution costs.

SB 987 also would require the GSC to cooperate with the PUC and with telephone book publishers to ensure that the categories of state telephone numbers are consistent with the categories established by the RMICC. The council would have to form a research group to study possibilities for electronic formatting of records.

The bill would take effect September 1, 1997.

**NOTES:**

The committee amendment would allow GSC to authorize yellow pages under procedures and rules, rather than terms, it considered appropriate.