

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
77R2066 MCK-D

S.B. 497  
By: Shapleigh  
State Affairs  
3/28/2001  
As Filed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, Texas state agencies are granted the express authority to post information on the Internet only in certain specific cases. Although the Texas Public Information Act can be interpreted to provide implied authority for state agencies to post information on the Internet, the absence of express authority may inhibit agencies from taking full advantage of the Internet.

As proposed, S.B. 497 expressly authorizes a state agency to post on its Internet site any nonconfidential information related to the agency's programs, activities, or functions.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

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

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 2054.121, Government Code, as added by Chapter 1573, Acts of the 76th Legislature, Regular Session, 1999, as follows:

Sec. 2054.121. New heading: POSTING OF INFORMATION ON INTERNET.  
Authorizes each state agency that maintains a generally accessible Internet site or for which a generally accessible Internet site is maintained to post on the site any nonconfidential information related to the agency's programs, activities, or functions.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2001.