

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
78R8706 PAM-D

C.S.S.B. 174  
By: Nelson  
State Affairs  
4/2/2003  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Current Texas law makes marriage license applications open records freely available to the public, including such personal information as an applicant's name, Social Security number, and address. C.S.S.B. 174 makes information related to an applicant's social security number confidential, and prohibits the county clerk from disclosing such information. In addition, C.S.S.B. 174 requires the county clerk to redact such information from an application upon receiving a request to make information in a marriage license application available under Chapter 552, Government Code.

### **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 Chapter 552C, Government Code, by adding Section 552.141, as follows:

Sec. 552.141. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION IN APPLICATION FOR MARRIAGE LICENSE. (a) Establishes as confidential the information that relates to the social security number of an individual on a marriage license application and maintained by the county clerk, including information in an application of behalf of an absent applicant. Prohibits the county clerk from disclosing such information to the public under this chapter.

(b) Requires the county clerk, upon receiving a request to make information in a marriage license application available under this chapter, to redact the portion of the application that contains an individual's social security number and release the remainder of the information in the application.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1,2003

### **SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES**

SECTION 1: Differs from the original by adding text specifying that information established as confidential is information relating to the social security number of an applicant. Deletes proposed Subdivisions (1) and (2) from proposed Section 552.141(a), Government Code. Proposes a different Section 552.141(b) than did the original, and deletes proposed Section 552.141(c) from the original, which required the State Board of Health to prescribe a form, by rule.