## SENATE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

## HOUSE BILL NO. 831

## AN ACT

To repeal sections 88.770, 327.401, 537.340, and 610.021, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof six new sections relating to non-investor-owned utilities.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 Section A. Sections 88.770, 327.401, 537.340, and 610.021,
- 2 RSMo, are repealed and six new sections enacted in lieu thereof,
- 3 to be known as sections 88.770, 301.3066, 301.3067, 327.401,
- 4 537.340, and 610.021, to read as follows:
- 5 88.770. 1. The board of aldermen may provide for and
- 6 regulate the lighting of streets and the erection of lamp posts,
- 7 poles and lights therefor, and may make contracts with any
- 8 person, association or corporation, either private or municipal,
- 9 for the lighting of the streets and other public places of the
- 10 city with gas, electricity or otherwise, except that each initial
- 11 contract shall be ratified by a majority of the voters of the
- 12 city voting on the question and any renewal contract or extension
- shall be subject to voter approval of the majority of the voters
- voting on the question, pursuant to the provisions of section
- 15 88.251. The board of aldermen may erect, maintain and operate
- 16 gas works, electric light works, or light works of any other kind
- or name, and to erect lamp posts, electric light poles, or any
- 18 other apparatus or appliances necessary to light the streets,

avenues, alleys or other public places, and to supply private 1 2 lights for the use of the inhabitants of the city and its 3 suburbs, and may regulate the same, and may prescribe and 4 regulate the rates to be paid by the consumers thereof, and may 5 acquire by purchase, donation or condemnation suitable grounds 6 within or without the city upon which to erect such works and the 7 right-of-way to and from such works, and also the right-of-way 8 for laying gas pipes, electric wires under or above the grounds, 9 and erecting posts and poles and such other apparatus and 10 appliances as may be necessary for the efficient operation of such works. The board of aldermen may, in its discretion, grant 11 12 the right to any person, persons or corporation, to erect such 13 works and lay the pipe, wires, and erect the posts, poles and 14 other necessary apparatus and appliances therefor, upon such 15 terms as may be prescribed by ordinance. Such rights shall not 16 extend for a longer time than twenty years, but may be renewed 17 for another period or periods not to exceed twenty years per period. Every initial grant shall be approved by a majority of 18 19 the voters of the municipality voting on the question, and each 20 renewal or extension of such rights shall be subject to voter 21 approval of the majority of the voters voting on the question, 22 pursuant to the provisions of section 88.251. Nothing herein 23 contained shall be so construed as to prevent the board of 24 aldermen from contracting with any person, persons or corporation 25 for furnishing the city with gas or electric lights in cities 26 where franchises have already been granted, and where gas or 27 electric light plants already exist, without a vote of the 28 people, except that the board of aldermen may sell, convey,

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encumber, lease, abolish or otherwise dispose of any public
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      utilities owned by the city including electric light systems,
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      electric distribution systems or transmission lines, or any part
      of the electric light systems, electric or other heat systems,
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      electric or other power systems, electric or other railways, gas
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      plants, telephone systems, telegraph systems, transportation
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      systems of any kind, waterworks, equipments and all public
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      utilities not herein enumerated and everything acquired therefor,
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      after first having passed an ordinance setting forth the terms of
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      the sale, conveyance or encumbrance and when ratified by
      two-thirds of the voters voting on the question, except for the
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      sale of a water or wastewater system, or the sale of a gas plant,
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      which shall be authorized by a simple majority vote of the voters
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      voting on the question. In the event of the proposed sale of a
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      water or wastewater system, or a gas plant, the board of alderman
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      shall hold a public meeting on such proposed sale at least thirty
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      days prior to the vote. The municipality in question shall
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      notify its customers of the informational meeting through radio,
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      television, newspaper, regular mail, electronic mail, or any
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      combination of notification methods to most effectively notify
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      customers at least fifteen days prior to the informational
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      meeting. In advance of putting a proposed sale of a water or
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      wastewater system, or a gas plant before the voters, the board of
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      aldermen may seek an appraisal as set forth in subsections 3 and
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      4 of section 393.320. The board may also seek and provide
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      additional reasonable analyses to inform voters of such sale,
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      including but not limited to, the impact of such sale on all city
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      funds and revenues, other city services, and annexation. Nothing
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in this section shall be so construed as to discourage the board

of aldermen from seeking multiple bids when considering the

disposal of a water or wastewater system or a gas plant by sale.

- 2. The board of aldermen's determination of the fair market value of a water or wastewater system or a gas plant for the purposes of this section shall not be dispositive of the price of a water or wastewater system, or a gas plant, which may be subject to negotiation by the board of aldermen.
- 3. The board of aldermen may consider alternatives to disposing of a water or wastewater system, or a gas plant by sale, including entering into a finance agreement, purchase agreement, management agreement, or lease agreement with another entity.
- 4. The board of aldermen may make available on its internet site, if such internet site exists, at least forty-five days prior to submitting a proposal for election pursuant to this section, a copy of the appraisal under subsection 1 of this section and the fair market value of a water or wastewater system or a gas plant. Such information may also be posted in the building where the board of aldermen has its monthly meetings.
- 5. The board of aldermen may make a good-faith effort to notify each property owner of the city and each ratepayer of a water or wastewater system or a gas plant of the proposal to dispose of the water or wastewater system, or a gas plant, by sale through radio, television, newspaper, regular mail, electronic mail, or any combination of such notification methods.

  Such notice may also include instructions for locating a summary of the proposal and a summary of any appraisal and analyses as

- 1 <u>under subsection 1 of this section on the board of aldermen's</u>
- 2 internet site, if such internet site exists. In the event the
- 3 board of aldermen does not have an internet site, the notice may
- 4 inform the recipient that written copies of such information may
- 5 be made available at the building where the board of aldermen has
- 6 <u>its monthly meetings.</u>
- 7 6. Nothing in this section shall be construed as a
- 8 violation of section 115.646, relating to the use of public funds
- 9 <u>to advocate, support, or oppose the ballot measure prescribed in</u>
- 10 subsection 8.
- 11  $\frac{7}{1}$  The ballots shall be substantially in the following form
- and shall indicate the property, or portion thereof, and whether
- 13 the same is to be sold, leased or encumbered:
- 14 Shall\_\_\_\_\_ (Indicate the property by stating whether
- 15 electric distribution system, electric transmission lines or
- 16 waterworks, etc.) be \_\_\_\_\_ (Indicate whether sold, leased or
- 17 encumbered.)?
- 18 <u>301.3066.</u> 1. Any Missouri resident may receive special
- 19 license plates as prescribed in this section after an annual
- 20 payment of an emblem-use authorization fee to the Association of
- 21 <u>Missouri Electric Cooperatives.</u> The Association of Missouri
- 22 Electric Cooperatives hereby authorizes the use of its official
- lineman emblem to be fixed on multi-year personalized license
- 24 plates as provided in this section. Any contribution to such
- association derived from this section shall be used solely for
- 26 financial assistance for lineman training programs. Any Missouri
- 27 resident may annually apply to the association for the use of the
- emblem.

2. Upon annual application and payment of a twenty-five dollar emblem-use contribution to the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives, the association shall issue to the vehicle owner, without further charge, an emblem-use authorization statement, which shall be presented by the vehicle owner to the department of revenue at the time of registration of a motor vehicle. Upon presentation of the annual statement and payment of the fee required for personalized license plates in section 301.144, and other fees and documents which may be required by law, the department of revenue shall issue personalized license plates, which shall bear the emblem of the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives' lineman, to the vehicle owner.

- 3. The license plates authorized by this section shall be made with fully reflective material with a common color scheme and design, shall be clearly visible at night, and shall be aesthetically attractive, as prescribed by section 301.130. The bidding process used to select a vendor for the material to manufacture the license plates authorized by this section shall consider the aesthetic appearance of the plates.
- 4. A vehicle owner, who was previously issued plates with the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives' lineman emblem authorized by this section but who does not provide an emblem-use authorization statement at a subsequent time of registration, shall be issued new plates which do not bear the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives' lineman emblem, as otherwise provided by law. The director of revenue shall make necessary rules and regulations for the enforcement of this section, and shall design all necessary forms required by this section.

301.3067. 1. Any Missouri resident may receive special license plates as prescribed in this section after an annual payment of an emblem-use authorization fee to the Missouri Association of Municipal Utilities. The Missouri Association of Municipal Utilities hereby authorizes the use of its official utility worker emblem to be fixed on multi-year personalized license plates as provided in this section. Any contribution to such association derived from this section shall be used solely for financial assistance for utility worker training programs. Any Missouri resident may annually apply to the association for the use of the emblem. 

- 2. Upon annual application and payment of a twenty-five dollar emblem-use contribution to the Missouri Association of Municipal Utilities, the association shall issue to the vehicle owner, without further charge, an emblem-use authorization statement, which shall be presented by the vehicle owner to the department of revenue at the time of registration of a motor vehicle. Upon presentation of the annual statement and payment of the fee required for personalized license plates in section 301.144, and other fees and documents which may be required by law, the department of revenue shall issue personalized license plates, which shall bear the emblem of the Missouri Association of Municipal Utilities' utility worker, to the vehicle owner.
- 3. The license plates authorized by this section shall be made with fully reflective material with a common color scheme and design, shall be clearly visible at night, and shall be aesthetically attractive, as prescribed by section 301.130. The bidding process used to select a vendor for the material to

- 1 manufacture the license plates authorized by this section shall
  2 consider the aesthetic appearance of the plates.
- 4. A vehicle owner, who was previously issued plates with 3 the Missouri Association of Municipal Utilities' utility worker 4 5 emblem authorized by this section but who does not provide an 6 emblem-use authorization statement at a subsequent time of 7 registration, shall be issued new plates which do not bear the Missouri Association of Municipal Utilities' utility worker 8 9 emblem, as otherwise provided by law. The director of revenue 10 shall make necessary rules and regulations for the enforcement of this section, and shall design all necessary forms required by 11 12 this section.

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327.401. 1. The right to practice as an architect or to practice as a professional engineer or to practice as a professional land surveyor or to practice as a professional landscape architect shall be deemed a personal right, based upon the qualifications of the individual, evidenced by such individual's professional license and shall not be transferable; but any architect or any professional engineer or any professional land surveyor or any professional landscape architect may practice his or her profession through the medium of, or as a member or as an employee of, a partnership or corporation if the plans, specifications, estimates, plats, reports, surveys or other like documents or instruments of the partnership or corporation are signed and stamped with the personal seal of the architect, professional engineer, professional land surveyor, or professional landscape architect by whom or under whose immediate personal supervision the same

were prepared and provided that the architect or professional engineer or professional land surveyor or professional landscape architect who affixes his or her signature and personal seal to any such plans, specifications, estimates, plats, reports or other documents or instruments shall be personally and professionally responsible therefor.

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- Any domestic corporation formed under the corporation law of this state, or any foreign corporation, now or hereafter organized and having as one of its purposes the practicing of architecture or professional engineering or professional land surveying or professional landscape architecture and any existing corporation which amends its charter to propose to practice architecture or professional engineering or professional land surveying or professional landscape architecture shall obtain a certificate of authority for each profession named in the articles of incorporation or articles of organization from the board which shall be renewed in accordance with the provisions of section 327.171 or 327.261 or 327.351, as the case may be, and from and after the date of such certificate of authority and while the authority or a renewal thereof is in effect, may offer and render architectural or professional engineering or professional land surveying or professional landscape architectural services in this state if:
  - (1) At all times during the authorization or any renewal thereof the directors of the corporation shall have assigned responsibility for the proper conduct of all its architectural or professional engineering or professional land surveying or professional landscape architectural activities in this state to

- an architect licensed and authorized to practice architecture in this state or to a professional engineer licensed and authorized to practice engineering in this state or to a professional land surveyor licensed and authorized to practice professional land surveying in this state, or to a professional landscape architect licensed and authorized to practice professional landscape architecture in this state, as the case may be; and
  - charge and supervises or supervise the architectural or professional engineering or professional land surveying or professional landscape architectural activities, as the case may be, of any such corporation in this state shall be licensed and authorized to practice architecture or professional engineering or professional land surveying or professional landscape architecture, as the case may be, as provided in this chapter; and
  - (3) The corporation pays such fees for the certificate of authority, renewals or reinstatements thereof as are required.

The provisions of this subsection requiring corporations to

- obtain a certificate of authority shall not apply to any rural electrical cooperative organized under the provisions of chapter
- 23 394 or to any corporation organized on a nonprofit or a
- 24 <u>cooperative basis as described in subsection 1 of section</u>
- 25 <u>394.200</u>, or to any electrical corporation operating under
- 26 <u>cooperative business plan, as described in subsection 2 of</u>
- 27 <u>section 393.110.</u>

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28 537.340. 1. If any person shall cut down, injure or

- destroy or carry away any tree placed or growing for use, shade
- or ornament, or any timber, rails or wood standing, being or
- 3 growing on the land of any other person, including any
- 4 governmental entity, or shall dig up, quarry or carry away any
- 5 stones, ore or mineral, gravel, clay or mold, or any ice or other
- 6 substance or material being a part of the realty, or any roots,
- 7 fruits or plants, or cut down or carry away grass, grain, corn,
- 8 flax or hemp in which such person has no interest or right,
- 9 standing, lying or being on land not such person's own, or shall
- 10 knowingly break the glass or any part of it in any building not
- such person's own, the person so offending shall pay to the party
- injured treble the value of the things so injured, broken,
- destroyed or carried away, with costs. Any person filing a claim
- for damages pursuant to this section need not prove negligence or
- 15 intent.
- 16 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 1 of this
- section, the following rules shall apply to the trimming,
- 18 removing, and controlling of trees and other vegetation by any
- 19 electric supplier:
- 20 (1) Every electric supplier that operates electric
- 21 transmission or distribution lines shall have the authority to
- 22 maintain the same by trimming, removing, and controlling trees
- and other vegetation posing a hazard to the continued safe and
- 24 reliable operation thereof;
- 25 (2) An electric supplier may exercise its authority under
- 26 subdivision (1) of this subsection if the trees and other
- 27 vegetation are within the legal description of any recorded
- 28 easement or, in the absence of a recorded easement, the

- 1 following:
- 2 (a) Within ten feet, plus one-half the length of any
- 3 attached cross arm, of either side of the centerline of
- 4 electricity lines potentially energized at or below 34.5
- 5 kilovolts measured line to line and located within the limits of
- 6 any city; or
- 7 (b) Within thirty feet of either side of the centerline of
- 8 electricity lines potentially energized at or below 34.5
- 9 kilovolts measured line to line and located outside the limits of
- 10 any city; or
- 11 (c) Within fifty feet of either side of the centerline of
- 12 electricity lines potentially energized between 34.5 and one
- 13 hundred kilovolts measured line to line; or
- 14 (d) Within the greater of the following for any electricity
- lines potentially energized at one hundred kilovolts or more
- 16 measured line to line:
- 17 a. Seventy-five feet to either side of the centerline; or
- 18 b. Any required clearance distance adopted by either the
- 19 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or an Electric Reliability
- Organization authorized by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, 16
- 21 U.S.C. Section 824o. Such exercise shall be considered
- 22 reasonable and necessary for the proper and reliable operation of
- electric service and shall create a rebuttable presumption, in
- 24 claims for property damage, that the electric supplier acted with
- 25 reasonable care, operated within its rights regarding the
- operation and maintenance of its electricity lines, and has not
- 27 committed a trespass;
- 28 (3) An electric supplier may trim, remove, and control

trees and other vegetation outside the provisions in subdivision
(2) of this subsection if such actions are necessary to maintain
the continued safe and reliable operation of its electric lines;

- (4) An electric supplier may secure from the owner or occupier of land greater authority to trim, remove, and control trees and other vegetation than the provisions set forth in subdivision (2) of this subsection and may exercise any and all rights regarding the trimming, removing, and controlling of trees and other vegetation granted in any easement held by the electric supplier;
- (5) An electric supplier may trim or remove any tree of sufficient height outside the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection when such tree, if it were to fall, would threaten the integrity and safety of any electric transmission or distribution line and would pose a hazard to the continued safe and reliable operation thereof;
- of subdivision (5) of this subsection, an electric supplier shall notify the owner or occupier of land, if available, at least fourteen days prior to such removal unless either the electric supplier deems the removal to be immediately necessary to continue the safe and reliable operation of its electricity lines, or the electric supplier is trimming or removing trees and other vegetation following a major weather event or other emergency situation;
- (7) If any tree which is partially trimmed by an electric supplier dies within three months as a result of said trimming, the owner or occupier of land upon which the tree was trimmed may

- request in writing that the electric supplier remove said tree at the electric supplier's expense. The electric supplier shall respond to such request within ninety days;
  - (8) Nothing in this subsection shall be interpreted as requiring any electric supplier to fully exercise the authorities granted in this subsection.

- 3. For purposes of this section, the term "electric supplier" means any rural electric cooperative that is subject to the provisions of chapter 394[, and]; any electrical corporation which is required by its bylaws to operate on the not-for-profit cooperative business plan, with its consumers who receive service as the stockholders of such corporation, and which holds a certificate of public convenience and necessity to serve a majority of its customer-owners in counties of the third classification as of August 28, 2003; any municipally owned or operated electric power system that is subject to the provisions of chapter 91; and any municipally owned utility whose service area is set by state statute, service agreement, or other authority to include areas which are not incorporated into city limits.
  - 610.021. Except to the extent disclosure is otherwise required by law, a public governmental body is authorized to close meetings, records and votes, to the extent they relate to the following:
  - (1) Legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys. However, any minutes, vote or

settlement agreement relating to legal actions, causes of action 1 2 or litigation involving a public governmental body or any agent 3 or entity representing its interests or acting on its behalf or 4 with its authority, including any insurance company acting on 5 behalf of a public government body as its insured, shall be made 6 public upon final disposition of the matter voted upon or upon 7 the signing by the parties of the settlement agreement, unless, 8 prior to final disposition, the settlement agreement is ordered 9 closed by a court after a written finding that the adverse impact 10 to a plaintiff or plaintiffs to the action clearly outweighs the public policy considerations of section 610.011, however, the 11 12 amount of any moneys paid by, or on behalf of, the public 13 governmental body shall be disclosed; provided, however, in 14 matters involving the exercise of the power of eminent domain, 15 the vote shall be announced or become public immediately 16 following the action on the motion to authorize institution of 17 such a legal action. Legal work product shall be considered a 18 closed record;

(2) Leasing, purchase or sale of real estate by a public governmental body where public knowledge of the transaction might adversely affect the legal consideration therefor. However, any minutes, vote or public record approving a contract relating to the leasing, purchase or sale of real estate by a public governmental body shall be made public upon execution of the lease, purchase or sale of the real estate;

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(3) Hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees by a public governmental body when personal information about the employee is discussed or recorded. However, any vote

- on a final decision, when taken by a public governmental body, to hire, fire, promote or discipline an employee of a public governmental body shall be made available with a record of how each member voted to the public within seventy-two hours of the close of the meeting where such action occurs; provided, however, that any employee so affected shall be entitled to prompt notice of such decision during the seventy-two-hour period before such decision is made available to the public. As used in this subdivision, the term "personal information" means information relating to the performance or merit of individual employees;
- 11 (4) The state militia or national guard or any part 12 thereof;

- (5) Nonjudicial mental or physical health proceedings involving identifiable persons, including medical, psychiatric, psychological, or alcoholism or drug dependency diagnosis or treatment;
- (6) Scholastic probation, expulsion, or graduation of identifiable individuals, including records of individual test or examination scores; however, personally identifiable student records maintained by public educational institutions shall be open for inspection by the parents, guardian or other custodian of students under the age of eighteen years and by the parents, guardian or other custodian and the student if the student is over the age of eighteen years;
- (7) Testing and examination materials, before the test or examination is given or, if it is to be given again, before so given again;
  - (8) Welfare cases of identifiable individuals;

- 1 (9) Preparation, including any discussions or work product, 2 on behalf of a public governmental body or its representatives 3 for negotiations with employee groups;
- 4 (10) Software codes for electronic data processing and documentation thereof;

- (11) Specifications for competitive bidding, until either the specifications are officially approved by the public governmental body or the specifications are published for bid;
- (12) Sealed bids and related documents, until the bids are opened; and sealed proposals and related documents or any documents related to a negotiated contract until a contract is executed, or all proposals are rejected;
  - (13) Individually identifiable personnel records, performance ratings or records pertaining to employees or applicants for employment, except that this exemption shall not apply to the names, positions, salaries and lengths of service of officers and employees of public agencies once they are employed as such, and the names of private sources donating or contributing money to the salary of a chancellor or president at all public colleges and universities in the state of Missouri and the amount of money contributed by the source;
    - (14) Records which are protected from disclosure by law;
- (15) Meetings and public records relating to scientific and technological innovations in which the owner has a proprietary interest;
- 26 (16) Records relating to municipal hotlines established for 27 the reporting of abuse and wrongdoing;
  - (17) Confidential or privileged communications between a

- public governmental body and its auditor, including all auditor
  work product; however, all final audit reports issued by the
  auditor are to be considered open records pursuant to this
  chapter;
- 5 Operational guidelines, policies and specific response (18)6 plans developed, adopted, or maintained by any public agency 7 responsible for law enforcement, public safety, first response, 8 or public health for use in responding to or preventing any 9 critical incident which is or appears to be terrorist in nature 10 and which has the potential to endanger individual or public safety or health. Financial records related to the procurement 11 12 of or expenditures relating to operational guidelines, policies 13 or plans purchased with public funds shall be open. When seeking 14 to close information pursuant to this exception, the public 15 governmental body shall affirmatively state in writing that 16 disclosure would impair the public governmental body's ability to 17 protect the security or safety of persons or real property, and 18 shall in the same writing state that the public interest in 19 nondisclosure outweighs the public interest in disclosure of the 20 records;
  - (19) Existing or proposed security systems and structural plans of real property owned or leased by a public governmental body, and information that is voluntarily submitted by a nonpublic entity owning or operating an infrastructure to any public governmental body for use by that body to devise plans for protection of that infrastructure, the public disclosure of which would threaten public safety:

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(a) Records related to the procurement of or expenditures

- relating to security systems purchased with public funds shall be open;
- 3 (b) When seeking to close information pursuant to this
  4 exception, the public governmental body shall affirmatively state
  5 in writing that disclosure would impair the public governmental
  6 body's ability to protect the security or safety of persons or
  7 real property, and shall in the same writing state that the
  8 public interest in nondisclosure outweighs the public interest in
  9 disclosure of the records;

- (c) Records that are voluntarily submitted by a nonpublic entity shall be reviewed by the receiving agency within ninety days of submission to determine if retention of the document is necessary in furtherance of a state security interest. If retention is not necessary, the documents shall be returned to the nonpublic governmental body or destroyed;
- (20) The portion of a record that identifies security systems or access codes or authorization codes for security systems of real property;
- or the operation of a computer, computer system, computer network, or telecommunications network, and would allow unauthorized access to or unlawful disruption of a computer, computer system, computer network, or telecommunications network of a public governmental body. This exception shall not be used to limit or deny access to otherwise public records in a file, document, data file or database containing public records.

  Records related to the procurement of or expenditures relating to such computer, computer system, computer network, or

- 1 telecommunications network, including the amount of moneys paid
- 2 by, or on behalf of, a public governmental body for such
- 3 computer, computer system, computer network, or
- 4 telecommunications network shall be open;

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5 Credit card numbers, personal identification numbers, 6 digital certificates, physical and virtual keys, access codes or 7 authorization codes that are used to protect the security of 8 electronic transactions between a public governmental body and a 9 person or entity doing business with a public governmental body. 10 Nothing in this section shall be deemed to close the record of a person or entity using a credit card held in the name of a public 11 12 governmental body or any record of a transaction made by a person 13 using a credit card or other method of payment for which

reimbursement is made by a public governmental body;

- (23) Records submitted by an individual, corporation, or other business entity to a public institution of higher education in connection with a proposal to license intellectual property or perform sponsored research and which contains sales projections or other business plan information the disclosure of which may endanger the competitiveness of a business; [and]
- (24) Records relating to foster home or kinship placements of children in foster care under section 210.498; and
- records for customers of a municipally owned utility, unless the records are requested by the customer or authorized for release by the customer. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a municipally owned utility shall make available to the public the customer's name, billing address, location of service, and dates of service

1 provided for any commercial service account.