Amend CSHB 3540 by inserting an appropriately numbered article and renumbering subsequent articles accordingly:

ARTICLE ____. INTEREST ON CERTAIN TAX REFUNDS

SECTION ____.01. Section 111.064, Tax Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (c), and (f) and adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

- (a) Except as otherwise provided by this section [Subsections (b) and (c)], in a comptroller's final decision on a claim for refund or in an audit, interest is at the rate set in Section 111.060 on the amount found to be erroneously paid for a period:
 - (1) beginning on the latest [later] of:
 - (A) 60 days after the date of payment;
 - (B) [or] the due date of the tax report; or
 - (C) the date the claim for the refund is filed;

and

- (2) ending on, as determined by the comptroller, either the date of allowance of credit on account of the comptroller's final decision or audit or a date not more than 10 days before the date of the refund warrant.
- (c) For a refund <u>claimed before September 1, 2005, and</u> granted for a report period due on or after January 1, 2000, the rate of interest is the rate set in Section 111.060. <u>For a refund claimed on or after September 1, 2005, and granted for a report period due on or after January 1, 2000, the rate of interest is the lesser of:</u>
- (1) the average rate of interest earned on deposits in the state treasury during the period for which interest is paid on the refund, as determined by the comptroller; or
 - (2) the rate set in Section 111.060.
- (c-1) A refund, without regard to the date claimed, for a report period due before January 1, 2000, does not accrue interest.
- (f) A local revenue fund is not subject to Subsections $\underline{(a)-(c-1)}$ [$\underline{(a)-(c)}$]. In this subsection, "local revenue fund" includes a court cost, a fee, a fine, or a similar charge collected by a municipality, a county, or a court of this state and remitted to the comptroller.

SECTION ____.02. This article takes effect September 1, 2005.