

By: Brimer

S.B. No. 556

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the collection of certain fines, penalties, expenses,
and interest by certain municipalities.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 54, Local Government Code, is amended by
adding Subchapter Z to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER Z. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 54.901. COLLECTION OF FINES, PENALTIES, EXPENSES, AND
INTEREST. (a) This section applies only to an eligible central
municipality as that term is defined by Section 351.001, Tax Code.

(b) On the request of a municipality, the person who
assesses the ad valorem taxes for the municipality shall include on
the ad valorem tax bill sent under Section 31.01, Tax Code, to the
owner of a property separate items for:

(1) a fine or penalty imposed under Section 54.001;

(2) a civil penalty imposed under Section 54.017 or
54.037;

(3) a civil penalty imposed or an expense assessed
under Section 214.0015;

(4) a fine imposed or an expense assessed under
Section 214.002;

(5) an expense assessed under Section 342.007, Health
and Safety Code; and

(6) accrued interest on a fine, penalty, or expense

1 listed in Subdivisions (1)-(5).

2 (c) The tax bill must show the total amount due, and that
3 amount must include the ad valorem taxes, the fine or penalty
4 imposed or expense assessed, and the interest accrued.

5 (d) At the time the property owner pays the ad valorem taxes
6 on the property to the person who collects the ad valorem taxes for
7 the municipality, the property owner shall pay to that collector
8 the fine or penalty imposed or expense assessed and the interest
9 accrued.

10 (e) If the person who assesses or collects taxes for a
11 municipality is not an officer or employee of the municipality, the
12 municipality shall negotiate with the person a reasonable fee to be
13 paid to the person for services performed by the person under this
14 section.

15 SECTION 2. Subchapter Z, Chapter 54, Local Government Code,
16 as added by this Act, applies to the collection of a fine or penalty
17 imposed or an expense assessed by a municipality and the related
18 interest accrued before, on, or after the effective date of this
19 Act.

20 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.