

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 2242
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 13, 2009; March 31, 2009, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;
1-4 April 22, 2009, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; April 22, 2009,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 2242 By: Van de Putte

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to the provision of assistance by the Texas Ethics
1-11 Commission in the reporting of political contributions and
1-12 expenditures made in connection with offices of and measures
1-13 proposed by local governmental entities.

1-14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-15 SECTION 1. Chapter 571, Government Code, is amended by
1-16 adding Subchapter G to read as follows:

1-17 SUBCHAPTER G. REPORTING OF POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND
1-18 EXPENDITURES RELATED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES AND OFFICERS

1-19 Sec. 571.201. PURPOSE. The purpose of this subchapter is to
1-20 further the objective of fully disclosing information related to
1-21 political contributions and expenditures made in connection with
1-22 offices of and measures proposed by local governmental entities by
1-23 allowing a local governmental entity or a candidate for or holder of
1-24 an office of a local governmental entity or a related
1-25 specific-purpose committee to use the commission's software and
1-26 other commission resources to file reports of political
1-27 contributions and expenditures required by Title 15, Election Code.

1-28 Sec. 571.202. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

1-29 (1) "Local governmental entity" and "local government
1-30 officer" have the meanings assigned by Section 176.001, Local
1-31 Government Code.

1-32 (2) "Measure," "political contribution," "political
1-33 expenditure," and "specific-purpose committee" have the meanings
1-34 assigned by Section 251.001, Election Code.

1-35 Sec. 571.203. USE OF COMMISSION SOFTWARE AND RESOURCES.

1-36 (a) To fulfill the purpose of this subchapter and to facilitate
1-37 filing of reports of political contributions and expenditures
1-38 required by Title 15, Election Code, the commission may allow the
1-39 use of commission software and resources by:

1-40 (1) a local governmental entity;

1-41 (2) a local government officer;

1-42 (3) a candidate for an office of a local governmental
1-43 entity; or

1-44 (4) a specific-purpose committee for supporting or
1-45 opposing a candidate for an office of a local governmental entity,
1-46 assisting a local government officer, or supporting or opposing a
1-47 measure proposed by a local governmental entity.

1-48 (b) The commission may provide assistance to a local
1-49 governmental entity, a local government officer, a candidate for an
1-50 office of a local governmental entity, or a specific-purpose
1-51 committee by:

1-52 (1) developing software to facilitate electronic
1-53 filing of reports of political contributions and expenditures;

1-54 (2) maintaining reports of political contributions
1-55 and expenditures for electronic publishing and filing; and

1-56 (3) providing public access through the commission's
1-57 Internet website to electronic reports of political contributions
1-58 and expenditures filed by:

1-59 (A) a local governmental entity;

1-60 (B) a local government officer;

1-61 (C) a candidate for an office of a local
1-62 governmental entity; or

1-63 (D) a specific-purpose committee for supporting

2-1 or opposing a candidate for an office of a local governmental
2-2 entity, assisting a local government officer, or supporting or
2-3 opposing a measure proposed by a local governmental entity.

2-4 (c) The commission may enter into an intergovernmental
2-5 contract with a local governmental entity to provide the assistance
2-6 described by Subsection (b).

2-7 SECTION 2. This Act does not make an appropriation. A
2-8 provision in this Act that creates a new governmental program,
2-9 creates a new entitlement, or imposes a new duty on a governmental
2-10 entity is not mandatory during a fiscal period for which the
2-11 legislature has not made a specific appropriation to implement the
2-12 provision.

2-13 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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