

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**April 17, 2009**

**TO:** Honorable Todd Smith, Chair, House Committee on Elections

**FROM:** John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB1720** by Bohac (Relating to the use of public funds by a political subdivision for communications that contain false information relating to a ballot measure; providing a criminal penalty.), **As Introduced**

<b>No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b>
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The bill would amend the Election Code to prohibit an officer or employee of a political subdivision from spending or authorizing spending of public funds for a communication describing a measure if the communication contains material information that the officer or employee knows is false. A violation would be a Class A misdemeanor.

Provisions of the bill would apply only to an expenditure of public funds that is made on or after September 1, 2009.

**Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated as a result of enforcement actions, prosecution, or imposition of punishment for an offense committed.

**Source Agencies:**

**LBB Staff:** JOB, TP, DB