

1-1 By: Rodriguez S.B. No. 334  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 1, 2013; February 5, 2013,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Intergovernmental  
1-4 Relations; April 2, 2013, reported favorably by the following  
1-5 vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; April 2, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	Hinojosa	X		
1-9	Nichols	X		
1-10	Garcia	X		
1-11	Paxton	X		
1-12	Taylor	X		

1-13 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-14 AN ACT

1-15 relating to preliminary review of complaints filed with a county  
1-16 ethics commission.

1-17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-18 SECTION 1. Subsections (b) and (e), Section 161.1551, Local  
1-19 Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

1-20 (b) The standing preliminary review committee consists of  
1-21 three persons, as follows:

1-22 (1) two members of the commission, determined as  
1-23 provided by Subsection (c); and

1-24 (2) a review officer selected and retained by the  
1-25 commission.

1-26 (e) The review officer must be a practicing attorney or  
1-27 former judge. A commission member may serve as the review officer.

1-28 SECTION 2. Subsections (a) and (b), Section 161.159, Local  
1-29 Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

1-30 (a) If the alleged violation is a Category One violation:

1-31 (1) the respondent must respond to the notice required  
1-32 by Section 161.156(b) not later than the 14th day after the date the  
1-33 respondent receives the notice; and

1-34 (2) if the matter is not resolved by agreement between  
1-35 the standing preliminary review committee and the respondent before  
1-36 the 30th day after the date the committee receives the respondent's  
1-37 response to [respondent receives] the notice given under Section  
1-38 161.156(b), the committee shall set the matter for a preliminary  
1-39 review hearing to be held at the next committee meeting.

1-40 (b) If the alleged violation is a Category Two violation:

1-41 (1) the respondent must respond to the notice required  
1-42 by Section 161.156(b) not later than the 14th day after the date the  
1-43 respondent receives the notice under Section 161.156(b); and

1-44 (2) if the matter is not resolved by agreement between  
1-45 the standing preliminary review committee and the respondent before  
1-46 the 30th day after the date the committee receives the respondent's  
1-47 response to [respondent receives] the notice given under Section  
1-48 161.156(b), the committee shall set the matter for a preliminary  
1-49 review hearing to be held at the next committee meeting.

1-50 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
1-51 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
1-52 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
1-53 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
1-54 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

1-55 \* \* \* \* \*