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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| H.B. 1596 |
| By: Lozano |
| Government Transparency & Operation |
| Committee Report (Unamended) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**  Interested parties contend that political subdivisions should itemize public notice expenditures in their proposed budgets in order to increase transparency. H.B. 1596 seeks to require such itemization. |
| **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision. |
| **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution. |
| **ANALYSIS**  H.B. 1596 amends the Local Government Code to require the proposed budget of a political subdivision to include a line item indicating expenditures for notices required by law to be published in a newspaper by the political subdivision or a representative of the political subdivision that allows as clear a comparison as practicable between those expenditures in the proposed budget and actual expenditures for the same purpose in the preceding year. The bill applies only to a proposed budget for a fiscal year beginning on or after January 1, 2018. |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE**  On passage, or, if the bill does not receive the necessary vote, September 1, 2017. |