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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| H.B. 2471 |
| By: Davis, Sarah |
| General Investigating & Ethics |
| Committee Report (Unamended) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**  Interested parties contend that there should be a clear rule against a political subdivision spending or authorizing the use of public funds to make political contributions or expenditures. H.B. 2471 seeks to clearly prohibit such actions. |
| **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill expressly does one or more of the following: creates a criminal offense, increases the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or changes 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. 2471 amends the Election Code to prohibit an officer or employee of a political subdivision from spending or authorizing the spending of public funds to make a political contribution or a political expenditure and from directly or indirectly employing a person to use public funds to make such an unlawful contribution or expenditure. The bill creates a Class A misdemeanor offense for an officer or employee of a political subdivision who violates those prohibitions. |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE**  September 1, 2017. |