

By: Kolkhorst

S.B. No. 398

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to a study conducted by the State Auditor's Office to
3 compare the projected cost estimate attached to certain bills and
4 resolutions to the actual cost to the state of the bills and
5 resolutions.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

7 SECTION 1. Chapter 321, Government Code, is amended by
8 adding Section 321.0139 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 321.0139. STUDY ON ACTUAL COST OF BILLS AND
10 RESOLUTIONS. (a) The State Auditor shall conduct a study to
11 compare the probable cost estimate in fiscal notes prepared by the
12 Legislative Budget Board and attached to bills or resolutions in
13 accordance with Chapter 314 with the actual cost to the state of the
14 bills or resolutions.

15 (b) In conducting the study under this section, the State
16 Auditor shall:

17 (1) select for cost comparison a random sample set
18 consisting of 10 percent of fiscal notes prepared by the
19 Legislative Budget Board from the preceding five regular
20 legislative sessions that:

21 (A) projected a cost to the state; and

22 (B) were attached to bills or resolutions that
23 took effect; and

24 (2) develop a system to determine the actual cost to

1 the state associated with a bill or resolution that took effect.

2 (c) Not later than September 1, 2018, the State Auditor
3 shall deliver the results of the study conducted under this section
4 to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house
5 of representatives, the House Appropriations Committee, and the
6 Senate Finance Committee.

7 (d) This section expires December 31, 2018.

8 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
9 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
10 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
11 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
12 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.