

1-1 By: Bettencourt S.B. No. 702
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 7, 2019; March 1, 2019, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;
1-4 March 18, 2019, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9,
1-5 Nays 0; March 18, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	Huffman	X		
1-9	Hughes	X		
1-10	Birdwell	X		
1-11	Creighton	X		
1-12	Fallon	X		
1-13	Hall	X		
1-14	Lucio	X		
1-15	Nelson	X		
1-16	Zaffirini	X		

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the authorization and reporting of expenditures for
1-20 lobbying activities by certain political subdivisions and other
1-21 public entities.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Chapter 140, Local Government Code, is amended
1-24 by adding Section 140.012 to read as follows:

1-25 Sec. 140.012. EXPENDITURES FOR LOBBYING ACTIVITIES.

1-26 (a) This section applies only to a:

- 1-27 (1) political subdivision that imposes a tax;
- 1-28 (2) political subdivision or special district that has
1-29 the authority to issue bonds, including revenue bonds;
- 1-30 (3) regional mobility authority;
- 1-31 (4) transit authority;
- 1-32 (5) regional tollway authority;
- 1-33 (6) special purpose district;
- 1-34 (7) public institution of higher education;
- 1-35 (8) community college district;
- 1-36 (9) publicly owned utility; and
- 1-37 (10) river authority.

1-38 (b) A political subdivision or entity described by
1-39 Subsection (a) may spend money to directly or indirectly influence
1-40 or attempt to influence the outcome of any legislation pending
1-41 before the legislature only if the expenditure is authorized by a
1-42 majority vote of the governing body of the political subdivision or
1-43 entity in an open meeting of the governing body. The expenditure
1-44 must be voted on by the governing body as a stand-alone item on the
1-45 agenda at the meeting.

1-46 (c) A political subdivision or entity described by
1-47 Subsection (a) shall report to the Texas Ethics Commission and
1-48 publish on the political subdivision's or entity's Internet
1-49 website:

1-50 (1) the amount of money authorized under Subsection
1-51 (b) for the purpose of directly or indirectly influencing or
1-52 attempting to influence the outcome of any legislation pending
1-53 before the legislature;

1-54 (2) the name of any person required to register under
1-55 Chapter 305, Government Code, retained or employed by the political
1-56 subdivision or entity for the purpose described by Subdivision (1);
1-57 and

1-58 (3) an electronic copy of any contract for services
1-59 for the purpose described by Subdivision (1) that is entered into by
1-60 the political subdivision or entity with each person listed under
1-61 Subdivision (2).

