By:  Hughes S.B. No. 1357

(In the Senate - Filed March 10, 2021; March 18, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government; April 27, 2021, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; April 27, 2021, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

                 Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Bettencourt       X

Menéndez                    X

Eckhardt          X

Gutierrez         X

Hall              X

Nichols           X

Paxton            X

Springer          X

Zaffirini         X

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1357 By:  Nichols

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to deadlines associated with proposing and adopting a budget for certain counties.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 111.003(a), Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  Not later than August 15 [~~During the 7th or the 10th month of the fiscal year, as determined by the commissioners court~~], the county judge, assisted by the county auditor or county clerk, shall prepare a budget to cover all proposed expenditures of the county government for the succeeding fiscal year.

SECTION 2.  Section 111.006(a), Local Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  Not later than August 15 [~~When the county judge has completed the preparation of the budget~~], the county judge shall file a copy of the proposed budget with the county clerk.

SECTION 3.  Sections 111.007(b) and (c), Local Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b)  The commissioners court shall hold [~~set~~] the hearing not later than the 25th [~~for a date after the 15th~~] day after [~~of the month next following~~] the day [~~month in which~~] the budget is filed under [~~was prepared in accordance with~~] Section 111.006 [~~111.003, Local Government Code,~~] but before the commissioners court adopts the county's ad valorem tax rate for the current tax year [~~date on which taxes are levied by the court~~].

(c)  The commissioners court shall give public notice that it will consider the proposed budget on the date of the hearing.  The notice must state the date, time, and location of the hearing.  The notice must include, in type of a size at least equal to the type used for other items in the notice, any statement required to be included in the proposed budget under Section 111.003(b). The commissioners court shall give notice under this subsection:

(1)  not earlier than the 30th day before the date of the hearing; and

(2)  not later than the 10th day before the date of the hearing.

SECTION 4.  The changes in law made by this Act apply to a budget proposed by a county commissioners court for a fiscal year beginning on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 5.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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