

1-1 By: Flynn, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Bettencourt) H.B. No. 1378
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 27, 2015;
 1-3 April 28, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Finance; May 7, 2015, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 13, Nays 0; May 7, 2015,
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15			X	
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			
1-19	X			
1-20	X			
1-21	X			
1-22	X			
1-23			X	

1-24 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 1378 By: Bettencourt

1-25 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-26 AN ACT

1-27 relating to the fiscal transparency of political subdivisions.
 1-28 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 1-29 SECTION 1. Chapter 140, Local Government Code, is amended
 1-30 by adding Section 140.008 to read as follows:
 1-31 Sec. 140.008. ANNUAL REPORT OF CERTAIN FINANCIAL
 1-32 INFORMATION. (a) In this section:
 1-33 (1) "Debt obligation" means debt secured by ad valorem
 1-34 taxation.
 1-35 (2) "Political subdivision" means a county,
 1-36 municipality, school district, junior college district, other
 1-37 special district, or other subdivision of state government.
 1-38 (b) A political subdivision shall annually compile and
 1-39 report the following financial information in the manner prescribed
 1-40 by this section:
 1-41 (1) as of the last day of the preceding fiscal year,
 1-42 debt obligation information for the political subdivision that must
 1-43 state:
 1-44 (A) the amount of all authorized debt
 1-45 obligations;
 1-46 (B) the principal of all outstanding debt
 1-47 obligations;
 1-48 (C) the principal of each outstanding debt
 1-49 obligation;
 1-50 (D) the combined principal and interest required
 1-51 to pay all outstanding debt obligations on time and in full;
 1-52 (E) the combined principal and interest required
 1-53 to pay each outstanding debt obligation on time and in full;
 1-54 (F) if the political subdivision is a
 1-55 municipality, county, or school district, the amounts required by
 1-56 Paragraphs (A)-(E) expressed as a per capita amount; and
 1-57 (G) the following for each debt obligation:
 1-58 (i) the issued and unissued amount;
 1-59 (ii) the spent and unspent amount;
 1-60 (iii) the maturity date; and

2-1 (iv) the stated purpose for which the debt
2-2 obligation was authorized;

2-3 (2) the current credit rating given by any nationally
2-4 recognized credit rating organization to debt obligations of the
2-5 political subdivision; and

2-6 (3) any other information that the political
2-7 subdivision considers relevant or necessary to explain the values
2-8 required by this subsection.

2-9 (c) Not later than the 90th day after the last day of each
2-10 fiscal year, a political subdivision shall electronically submit to
2-11 the comptroller the financial information described by Subsection
2-12 (b) and any other related information required by the comptroller.
2-13 The political subdivision must submit the information to the
2-14 comptroller in the form and in the manner prescribed by rule by the
2-15 comptroller.

2-16 (d) The comptroller shall as soon as practicable post the
2-17 financial information submitted under Subsection (c) on the
2-18 comptroller's Internet website and maintain the posting at all
2-19 times. The comptroller shall update the information on the website
2-20 when a political subdivision submits new information. The
2-21 comptroller may post the information in the format that the
2-22 comptroller determines appropriate, provided that the information
2-23 for each political subdivision is easily located by searching the
2-24 name of the political subdivision on the Internet.

2-25 (e) If a political subdivision maintains an Internet
2-26 website, the political subdivision shall maintain at all times on
2-27 the website a direct link to the location on the comptroller's
2-28 website where the financial information submitted to the
2-29 comptroller under Subsection (c) may be viewed.

2-30 SECTION 2. The requirements to compile and report
2-31 information under Section 140.008, Local Government Code, as added
2-32 by this Act, apply only to a fiscal year ending on or after the
2-33 effective date of this Act.

2-34 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect January 1, 2016.

2-35 * * * * *