

1-1 By: Hagenbuch S.B. No. 2742
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 13, 2025; April 3, 2025, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs;
1-4 April 22, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 1; April 22, 2025,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7	COMMITTEE VOTE				
1-8		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9	Hughes	X			
1-10	Paxton	X			
1-11	Bettencourt	X			
1-12	Birdwell	X			
1-13	Hall	X			
1-14	Hinojosa of Nueces	X			
1-15	Middleton	X			
1-16	Parker	X			
1-17	Perry			X	
1-18	Schwertner	X			
1-19	Zaffirini		X		

1-20 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 2742 By: Hughes

1-21 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-22 AN ACT

1-23 relating to the enforcement of electioneering prohibitions and the
1-24 unlawful use of public funds for political advertising; imposing
1-25 civil penalties.

1-26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-27 SECTION 1. Section 11.169, Education Code, is amended to
1-28 read as follows:

1-29 Sec. 11.169. ELECTIONEERING PROHIBITED. (a)
1-30 Notwithstanding any other law, the board of trustees of an
1-31 independent school district may not use state or local funds or
1-32 other resources of the district to electioneer for or against any
1-33 candidate, measure, or political party.

1-34 (b) An independent school district that violates this
1-35 section is liable to the state for a civil penalty in an amount not
1-36 to exceed \$1,000. Each day a violation of this section continues
1-37 constitutes a separate violation.

1-38 (c) The attorney general may bring an action in Travis
1-39 County or the county in which a violation of this section occurs to
1-40 enforce this section.

1-41 (d) An independent school district's governmental immunity
1-42 to suit and from liability is waived to the extent of liability
1-43 created by this section.

1-44 SECTION 2. Chapter 255, Election Code, is amended by adding
1-45 Section 255.0032 to read as follows:

1-46 Sec. 255.0032. ENFORCEMENT OF UNLAWFUL USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS
1-47 FOR POLITICAL ADVERTISING. (a) A person who violates Section
1-48 255.003 is liable to the state for a civil penalty in an amount of
1-49 not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$1,500. Each day a violation
1-50 of that section continues constitutes a separate violation.

1-51 (b) For purposes of Subsection (a), a violation continues if
1-52 the person has not made a good faith effort to remove the political
1-53 advertising that constitutes a violation of Section 255.003 from
1-54 public access, as applicable.

1-55 (c) The attorney general may bring an action in Travis
1-56 County or the county in which the violation of Section 255.003
1-57 occurs to enforce this section.

1-58 (d) An officer or employee of a political subdivision may
1-59 not assert official immunity in an action brought under this
1-60 section.

(e) A political subdivision may not indemnify an officer or employee in an action brought under this section.

(f) This section does not limit or interfere with the attorney general's authority under Section [273.081](#).

SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to a violation that occurs on or after the effective date of this Act. A violation that occurs before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the violation occurred, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

* * * * *