

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS26877

This bill would allow local governmental entities (LGAs) under limited circumstances to post legal notices online rather than paying private media companies to print them in newspapers.

Current law requires LGAs to pay for legal notices of all pending requests for proposals. This bill would allow LGAs another option from those legal notice requirements for purchases of information-technology goods or services. Legal notices for IT purchases are not necessary since current best practice is to post IT-related requests for proposals online on a variety of websites, where they are most easily seen by the public and the vendor community.

This bill would require the LGAs to publish a notice online at least two weeks before a bid opening (just as is required for newspaper legal notices under current law) and to post the notice on the LGA website.

The current system increases costs for the taxpayers, is needlessly burdensome to local governments, creates unnecessary hurdles for private-sector vendors and lacks transparency for citizens.

Publishing these notices online would make them more widely available to the public and to the vendor community. This bill also increases transparency by keeping the notices online rather than having them disappear after the print publication.

FISCAL NOTE

Since this legislation is focused on cities, counties and school districts, there should be no impact on the state general fund. It would create cost-savings for local governmental entities.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).