

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 2471  
By: Davis, Sarah  
General Investigating & Ethics  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Interested parties contend that there should be a clear rule against a political subdivision spending or authorizing the use of public funds to make political contributions or expenditures. H.B. 2471 seeks to clearly prohibit such actions.

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill expressly does one or more of the following: creates a criminal offense, increases the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or changes the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

H.B. 2471 amends the Election Code to prohibit an officer or employee of a political subdivision from spending or authorizing the spending of public funds to make a political contribution or a political expenditure and from directly or indirectly employing a person to use public funds to make such an unlawful contribution or expenditure. The bill creates a Class A misdemeanor offense for an officer or employee of a political subdivision who violates those prohibitions.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2017.