

- SUBJECT:** Quarterly reporting for certain candidates, officeholders, committees
- COMMITTEE:** State Affairs — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 8 ayes — Cook, Giddings, Farney, Geren, Harless, Huberty, Kuempel, Smithee
- 0 nays
- 4 absent — Craddick, Farrar, Oliveira, Sylvester Turner
- WITNESSES:** For — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Donnis Baggett, Texas Press Association)
- Against — None
- BACKGROUND:** Under Election Code, ch. 254, candidates for statewide office and the Legislature, holders of statewide office, members of the Legislature, specific-purpose committees, and general purpose committees must file semiannual contribution and expenditure reports with the Texas Ethics Commission. The reports must be filed by July 15 and January 15.
- DIGEST:** CSHB 1532 would revise the requirements for reporting contributions and expenditures to the Texas Ethics Commission by candidates for statewide office, candidates for state representative and state senator, holders of statewide office, state representatives, state senators, general purpose committees, and certain specific-purpose committees. The new requirements would apply to specific-purpose committees supporting or opposing a candidate for statewide office or for the office of state representative or state senator, as well as those special-purpose committees assisting a holder of one of these offices.
- Instead of reporting twice a year, reports would be required quarterly with the deadlines on April 15, July 15, October 15, and January 15.
- The bill would take effect January 1, 2016.