

**SUBJECT:** Allowing the comptroller to advertise the local purchasing program

**COMMITTEE:** State Affairs — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 13 ayes — Paddie, Hernandez, Deshotel, Harless, Howard, Hunter, P. King, Lucio, Metcalf, Raymond, Shaheen, Slawson, Smithee

0 nays

**SENATE VOTE:** On final passage, April 29 — 31-0, on Local and Uncontested Calendar

**WITNESSES:** For — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Julie Wheeler, Travis County Commissioners Court; Kirk Broaddus; Susana Carranza; Dorothy Ann Compton; Robert Norris)

Against — None

On — Bobby Pounds, Comptroller of Public Accounts

**BACKGROUND:** Local Government Code sec. 271.082 requires the comptroller to establish a program by which to perform purchasing services for local governments.

Some have noted that the comptroller lacks the statutory authority to advertise the local government purchasing program, resulting in fewer entities taking advantage of the program and its benefits.

**DIGEST:** SB 59 would allow the comptroller to advertise in any available media or otherwise promote the purchasing program under Local Government Code sec. 271.082 to further state cooperation in the local purchasing program.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2021.