

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1179
By: Madla
Intergovernmental Relations
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As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, a commissioners court, like a committee in the Texas Legislature, may hear testimony from witnesses with regard to the items before the court, and decisions may be made based on information received during the testimony period. However, committees require witnesses to be sworn to ensure accurate factual information is given in testimony. This bill provides a commissioners court the option of requiring testimony to be given under oath, in order to receive accurate and factual testimony upon which decisions may be based.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1179 provides a commissioners court the option of requiring testimony to be given under oath, in order to receive accurate and factual testimony upon which decisions may be based.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 81B, Local Government Code, by adding Section 81.031, as follows:

Sec. 81.031. TESTIMONY BEFORE COMMISSIONERS COURT. Authorizes the commissioners court to require testimony before the court to be given under oath. Provides that a person who makes a false statement under oath is subject to prosecution under Section 37.02, Penal Code.

SECTION 2. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.