

- SUBJECT:** Revising county fiscal administration
- COMMITTEE:** County Affairs — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 6 ayes — W. Smith, Naishtat, Coleman, Farabee, Harless, Heflin
0 nays
3 absent — Bolton, Leibowitz, T. Smith
- WITNESSES:** For — Cindy Brown, County Treasurers Association of Texas; James Wells; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Lesa Crosswhite, County Treasurers Association of Texas; Mark Price; Paul Sugg, Texas Association of Counties; Jennifer Shelley Rodriguez, County and District Clerks Association; Ann Wilson)
Against — None
- BACKGROUND:** The County Treasurers' Association of Texas has identified statutes that require modification to bring current statutory language in alignment with current county treasury practices and procedures.
- DIGEST:** CSHB 3439 would remove the requirement for the county clerk to issue duplicate and triplicate deposit warrants. It would require the county treasurer to provide the county clerk or auditor with duplicate deposit warrants or a written report of all deposit warrants containing detailed information about each warrant. The bill would require the county treasurer to provide a duplicate deposit warrant to any person who made a deposit and requested a copy. It would allow the state comptroller to electronically transmit warrant payments to the county treasurer. CSHB 3439 would repeal the requirement that county treasurers punch a warrant after it is paid.

The bill would require the county treasurer to provide a detailed report of the county books, accounts, and office proceedings every month. It would allow the commissioners court to issue notice that the county treasurer provided this report on the county's web site, instead of in a local newspaper. The bill would set a monthly reporting procedure for all

county fee officials required to make a financial report to the commissioners court.

CSHB 3439 bill would allow the county treasurer to withhold pay from employees who failed to file the proper paperwork in counties with populations of 500,000 or more. It would allow the county treasurer to receive payroll deduction requests, revocations, and insurance deductions. This bill would specify that only county auditors and county treasurers could administer insurance deductions for county employees and that a county treasurer would be the only county official who could establish an electronic funds transfer system.

This bill specifies that in a county that had abolished the office of county treasurer, a reference to county treasurer in this code or other state statute would refer to the person who performed the powers or duties of the county treasurer in that county.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2007.