

**SUBJECT:** Requiring taxing units to publish certain property tax notice in newspaper

**COMMITTEE:** Ways and Means — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 11 ayes — Meyer, Thierry, Button, Cole, Guerra, Martinez Fischer,  
Murphy, Noble, Rodriguez, Sanford, Shine

0 nays

**WITNESSES:** For — Donnis Baggett, Texas Press Association; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Kelley Shannon, Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas; Mike Hodges, Texas Press Association)

Against — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Guadalupe Cuellar, City of El Paso; Jim Allison, County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas; Tammy Narvaez, Harris County Commissioners Court; Russell Schaffner, Tarrant County)

On — Robin Harper, Tax Assessor Collectors Association; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Korry Castillo, Comptroller of Public Accounts)

**BACKGROUND:** Tax Code sec. 26.04 requires the officer or employee designated by a taxing unit to calculate the unit's no-new-revenue and voter-approval property tax rates to post prominently on the home page of the taxing unit's website the tax rates and certain other information.

Some have proposed requiring tax notices to be posted in a newspaper so that rural Texans who lack reliable internet can access that information.

**DIGEST:** HB 1360 would require the designated officer or employee of a taxing unit to publish in a newspaper certain property tax rates and other information currently required to be posted on the taxing unit's website.

The bill would take effect January 1, 2022, and apply only to a property tax year that began on or after that date.