

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1516
By: Armbrister
Government Organization
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As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Local governments, especially those with multiple state funding sources, must comply with many state reporting and auditing requirements. Over time, these requirements have become duplicative and lack a coherent underlying scheme to ensure that only necessary information is required to be reported. As proposed, S.B. 1516 develops a more uniform and logical reporting structure for local governments.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 783, Government Code, by adding Section 783.010, as follows:

Sec. 783.010. STATE AGENCY REPORTING AND AUDITING COORDINATION.

(a) Requires a state agency that requires reports of local governments to, during the second year of each state biennium, conduct a zero-based review of reporting requirements imposed on local governments and simplify the reporting requirements and determine and eliminate unnecessary, duplicative, or overly burdensome reporting requirements.

(b) Requires a state agency to report the results of the reviews required by Subsection (a) to the state auditor and authorizes an agency to recommend statutory changes to minimize cost, duplication, and paperwork and to maximize the efficient and effective use of public funds.

(c) Prohibits a state agency from requiring local governments to submit reports on items not required by law, rule, or performance measures.

(d) Requires a state agency, to achieve greater efficiency in the use of governmental funds expended on governmental audits, to perform certain tasks.

(e) Requires the state auditor to report to the legislature and the governor each biennium on state agency compliance with these provisions.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2003.