

By: Muñoz, Jr.

H.B. No. 2841

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to authority of a county auditor to investigate misuse of county funds or property.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 84, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter C to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER C. POWERS AND DUTIES

Sec. 84.051. INVESTIGATION OF MISUSE OF COUNTY FUNDS AND PROPERTY. (a) A county auditor may investigate a complaint submitted to the county auditor that alleges misuse of county funds or property.

(b) After a county auditor's investigation under Subsection (a) is completed, the county auditor may:

(1) develop a report of the county auditor's findings that includes a summary of the findings and any comments from the county auditor;

(2) except as provided by Subsection (d), post the results of the investigation and the report developed under Subdivision (1), if applicable, on the county's Internet website, redacting any information required to be kept confidential by other law; or

(3) refer the matter to an appropriate law enforcement agency if the county auditor suspects criminal activity.

(c) If a county auditor develops a report under Subsection

1 (b)(1), the county auditor shall provide a copy of the report to the
2 commissioners court of the county.

3 (d) If a county auditor refers the matter to a law
4 enforcement agency under Subsection (b)(3), the county auditor may
5 not make the results of the county auditor's investigation or a
6 report developed under Subsection (b)(1) available to the public
7 until the law enforcement agency's investigation is completed.

8 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
9 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
10 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
11 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
12 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.