

Explainer: House Bill 1522 (HB 1522)

What the Bill Does

HB 1522 updates the Texas Open Meetings Act to:

1. Extend the required public notice period for meetings.
2. Add transparency requirements when discussing or adopting budgets.

1. Longer Posting Time for Meeting Notices

- Old Rule: Notices had to be posted at least 72 hours before the meeting.
- New Rule: Notices must be posted for at least three full business days.
This ensures weekends and holidays don't reduce public notice time.
- Applies to most governmental bodies, with some statutory exceptions.

2. Budget Transparency Requirements

If a meeting includes discussion or adoption of a budget, the notice must now include:

- A proposed budget: either a physical copy or a clear website link on the homepage.
- A taxpayer impact statement:
 - * Shows estimated change in property tax for a median-valued homestead.
 - * Compares current tax bill to one under the proposed budget and a no-new-revenue budget.
- Applies to taxing units (cities, counties), but excludes school districts and public universities.

Effective Date

This law takes effect on September 1, 2025.

Why It Matters

- Enhances public awareness and participation.
- Improves transparency on tax impacts of budgets.
- Aligns with existing tax code for clarity and accountability.