HB 2873 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

Prepared By: Cherie Stone, LPRO Analyst **Meeting Dates:** 6/7, 6/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires county election official to file notice of ballot measure involving local option tax or general obligation bond with Secretary of State (SOS) on behalf of governing body of municipal corporation. Requires information filed by county election official to be published by SOS on ORESTAR.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Timely dissemination of information to voters
- Increasing transparency and voter competency
- Capacity of ORESTAR to serve as centralized source for county ballot measure information

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, there is no centralized source for the public to research and review local option tax measures or general obligation bond measures that will be considered by voters on an upcoming ballot. In order to obtain information about upcoming local option tax measures or general obligation bond measures, a person must call each county elections office.

House Bill 2873-A requires the governing body of a county, city, port, school district, union high school district, community college district or any other public or quasi-public corporation, including a municipal utility or dock commission operated by a separate board or commission, that places a local option tax measure or a general obligation bond measure on the ballot, to submit information about the measure to the appropriate county elections officer, who must then file the information with the SOS for publication on ORESTAR.