



HB24-1073

SHORT TITLE: Independent Ethics Commission Jurisdiction

LONG TITLE: Concerning the scope of the independent ethics commission's jurisdiction over ethics complaints against local governments, and, in connection therewith, expanding the independent ethics commission's jurisdiction to include school districts and special districts.

SPONSORS: Representatives Story and Parenti/ Senators Marchman and Gonzales

COMMITTEE: House Transportation, Housing & Local Government Committee

PURPOSE OF THE BILL: To add officials and employees of school districts and certain special districts to the scope of individuals subject to the jurisdiction of the independent ethic commission.

PROPOSERS OF THE BILL: N/A

POTENTIAL STAKEHOLDERS: Members of the public who are interested in the activities of these public bodies.

BACKGROUND: Under current law, the independent ethics commission created in article XXIX of the state constitution does not have jurisdiction over officials or employees of special districts or school districts. Existing law establishes ethical standards for a special district official or employee or school district official or employee. The bill incorporates those standards under the independent ethics commission's jurisdiction and expands the standards to include those described in article XXIX of the state constitution.

Is this bill necessary this year? There is no deadline.

How does the bill change current law? The bill gives the independent ethics commission jurisdiction to hear complaints, issue findings, assess penalties, and issue advisory opinions on ethics issues concerning a special district official or employee or school district official or employee. **It specifically excludes entities organized under Article 41-50 under Title 37 which includes water conservation and irrigation districts.**

Does the bill affect the prior appropriations system? No.

How is the bill implemented? The bill is self-executing.

Practical considerations: What is the likelihood of this bill being amended to enlarge the scope of jurisdiction?

Fiscal Impact: There is no fiscal note.