

Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007 Introducer's Statement of Intent LB 639

Chairperson: Brad Ashford Committee: Judiciary

Date of Hearing: February 15, 2007

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 639 would provide the county attorney with control over all legal matters of political subdivisions headquartered in his or her county beginning July 1, 2008. The county attorney would be compensated for the services provided to each political subdivision according to a schedule adopted by the county board. The county attorney would be allowed to employ additional counsel as he or she deems necessary to represent the interests of political subdivisions on civil matters. Such additional counsel would receive reasonable compensation from the governing body of the political subdivision being represented as agreed upon by the governing body, the county attorney, and such additional counsel.

The purpose of this bill is to place local government under the same framework as state government with regard to legal representation. At the state level, legal matters are under the charge and control of a single party, the Attorney General. This bill would designate the county attorney as the party singly responsible for control of legal matters involving local political subdivisions.

Principal Introducer:	
	Senator Ron Raikes