



HOUSE BILL 659: Local Government Spending Transparency.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House Judiciary 1. If favorable, re-refer to State and Local Government. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 15, 2025
Introduced by:	Reps. Echevarria, Loftis, Almond, Lowery	Prepared by:	Ike McRee
Analysis of:	First Edition		Committee Co-Counsel

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 659 would do the following:*

- *Require all local government invoices to be itemized with minimum required disclosures.*
- *Require local government websites to provide a link to view quarterly invoices.*
- *Require local government websites to provide a link to the top three bids on every project, service, or goods purchased with tax dollars and with quarterly updates.*

CURRENT LAW: Under current law, local governments can provide a link on a local government website for the public to view invoices or bids received on projects, services or goods purchased with tax dollars. Unless there is a statutory exception, all records made or received in connection with the transaction of public business are subject to public inspection and copying under the State's public records law. (G.S. 132-1)

BILL ANALYSIS:

House Bill 659 would enact G.S. 159-42.2 to require local governments to do all the following:

- Itemize all invoices and disclose the payee, amount paid, items or services purchased, and performance dates.
- Provide a website link to view all quarterly invoices. Unless otherwise provided by law, the invoices must not be redacted. A municipality without a website must keep copies of the quarterly invoices paid in a binder for public viewing on a counter at the municipal building.
- Provide a website link to the top three bids on every project, service, or any goods purchased with tax dollars with quarterly updates. Unless otherwise provided by law, the bids must not be redacted.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act would become effective July 1, 2025.

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