LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 78TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 20, 2003

TO: Honorable Bill Ratliff, Chair, Senate Committee on State Affairs

FROM: John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB404 by Madden (Relating to the participation of a judge at a political party convention.),

As Engrossed

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend Government Code, Chapter 33 relating to the participation of a judge at a political party convention. The bill would provide that a judge's participation at a political party convention could not be a basis for a finding of judicial misconduct under the Code of Judicial Conduct or any other law. The bill would apply to participation at a convention regardless of whether the State Commission on Judicial Conduct has commenced an investigation or formal proceeding before the effective date of the bill. The bill would take effect immediately if the bill receives the vote of two-thirds the members of each house. Otherwise, the bill would take effect September 1, 2003.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 242 State Commission on Judicial Conduct

LBB Staff: JK, RR, GO, VDS, TB