

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 78TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**April 26, 2003**

**TO:** Honorable Will Hartnett, Chair, House Committee on Judicial Affairs

**FROM:** John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB404** by Madden (Relating to the participation of a judge in political party activities.), **As Introduced**

**No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would amend Government Code, Chapter 33 relating to the participation of a judge in political party activities. The bill would provide that a judge's voting in a political party convention and/or serving as a delegate to political party conventions 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 political activities 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, GO, VDS, TB