

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**

**Austin, Texas**

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

**April 7, 2003**

**TO:** Honorable Kent Grusendorf, Chair, House Committee on Public Education

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

**IN RE: HB521** by Grusendorf (Relating to state assessment of public school students in social studies in the fifth grade and in science in the eighth grade.), **As Introduced**

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

The bill would require the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to develop and administer a science assessment for 8th grade and social studies assessment for 5th grade by 2006-2007. An 8th grade science assessment and a 5th grade social studies assessment for special education populations would be required by the 2008-2009 school year.

TEA estimates the cost to develop all four tests to be \$2 million over a two-year development period. Funding for test development is paid from a set-aside from the compensatory education allotment of the Foundation School Program, and therefore cost neutral to the state. TEA may require a small increase in its administrative resources in fiscal year 2007 and beyond in its Student Assessment and Performance Reporting divisions to accommodate the provisions of the bill.

**Local Government Impact**

Because test development is paid for through a set aside from the compensatory allotment, statewide school districts would see a decrease to their state aid equal to the cost of the test (estimated to be \$2 million over a two-year development period).

**Source Agencies:** 701 Central Education Agency

**LBB Staff:** JK, CT, UP, JGM