LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 78TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

February 26, 2003

TO: Honorable Rick Hardcastle, Chair, House Committee on Agriculture & Livestock

FROM: John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB873 by Cook, Robby (Relating to the rural volunteer fire department insurance program.),

As Introduced

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

This bill would amend the Government Code to allow volunteer fire departments to participate in a firefighter certification program administered by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group.

Under this bill, the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Insurance Program's five advisory committee members would not have to consist of two members of the Texas Rural Fire Advisory Council, two elected county officials and one elected representative of a municipality with a population of 10,000 or less. Instead, an advisory committee member would be chosen from each of five designated Texas regions.

While the bill would entitle an advisory committee member to reimbursement of reasonable travel expenses incurred in performing committee duties, a member would not receive compensation for services.

This bill would take effect September 1, 2003.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller Of Public Accounts, 411 Texas Commission On Fire Protection, 576

Texas Forest Service

LBB Staff: JK, CL, PF, JAW, KG