

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

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

**March 21, 2003**

**TO:** Honorable Kenny Marchant, Chair, House Committee on State Affairs

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

**IN RE: HB1586** by Baxter (Relating to excepting from required public disclosure under the public information law the assessments of a utility's vulnerability to intentional acts of harm.), **As Introduced**

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

The bill adds a new section 552.141 to the Government Code providing an exception from required public disclosure on the assessment of a utility's vulnerability to intentional acts of harm and applies to water, wastewater, electric, telecommunications, gas, and cable services. The bill provides such information is excepted from disclosure under the Public Information Act if it is (1) prepared for the purpose of assessing the vulnerability of utility infrastructure or procedures to disruption or damage by an intentional act of harm or (2) assesses or describes existing or proposed measures to lessen the vulnerability of a utility infrastructure or procedures to an intentional act of harm.

The bill applies to information prepared after the effective date of the Act; the Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all members of each house, otherwise it takes effect September 1, 2003.

**Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 302 Office Of The Attorney General, 473 Public Utility Commission Of Texas, 475 Office Of Public Utility Counsel

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