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LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 78TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 13, 2003

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TO: Honorable Frank Madla, Chair, Senate Committee on Intergovernmental Relations

FROM: John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB1681** by Stick (Relating to the amount of compensation and allowances for certain county auditors.), **As Engrossed**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Local Government Code to authorize a county auditor's salary in certain counties to exceed the current limits on a county auditor's salary if the compensation and allowances are approved by the county commissioners court of the county. In a county also governed by Subsection (b) of Section 152.032, Local Government Code, the limits in Subsection (b) would apply. The bill would take effect immediately if it receives a two-thirds vote in each house; otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2003.

Current statute limits the county auditor's salary to an amount not to exceed the salary and allowances of the highest paid elected county officer in the county, other than a judge of a statutory court, whose salary and allowances are set by the commissioners court. The proposed change in statute would apply to counties with a population of more than 800,000 and that use an automated system to enhance internal controls of county finances related to the county's automated purchasing system and its automated payroll system, unless the county is also governed by Subsection (b) of the same code. For a county also governed by Subsection (b), the county auditor's compensation may not exceed that of the county budget officer.

The fiscal impact would depend on salary amounts approved by the county commissioners courts. It is anticipated that the commissioners courts would not approve compensation and allowances that would create a fiscal burden for the county.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies:
LBB Staff: JK, DLBa