

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 78TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 16, 2003

TO: Honorable Mary Denny, Chair, House Committee on Elections

FROM: John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB1695 by Denny (Relating to certain election processes and procedures.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Election Code affecting various procedures related to the election process, including requirements of a signature verification committee, delivery of ballots for counting, certification of votes, early voting, voter registration, and filing to run for office.

The bill would also repeal sections of the Election Code that would conflict with or would be clarified by the provisions of the bill. The bill would take effect September 1, 2003 and would apply to elections held on or after that date.

County election administrators indicated that the majority of the provisions of the bill would have no or insignificant fiscal impact, although requirements that change the time frames for counting early voting ballots and that would extend the time for the main early voting poll location to be open on election day to allow disabled voters to vote using early voting methods (7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., rather than 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.) may result in some counties having to increase staff on election day.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies: 307 Secretary of State, 405 Department of Public Safety

LBB Staff: JK, GO, JB, DLBa