

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

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

**May 22, 2003**

**TO:** Honorable John Whitmire, Chair, Senate Committee on Criminal Justice

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

**IN RE: HB2174** by Heflin (Relating to illegal uses of confidential information by persons having legal access to confidential information; creating an offense.), **As Engrossed**

<b>No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b>
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The bill adds Section 552.0085 to the Government Code relating to illegal uses of confidential information by persons having legal access to confidential information; creating an offense. The bill states “A person who legally has access to confidential information under Section 552.008 or another law that permits such person's access to such confidential information commits an offense if the person knowingly (1) permits inspection of the confidential information by a person not authorized to inspect the confidential information, (2) discloses confidential information to a person not authorized to receive the information, or (3) uses the confidential information for a purpose other than the purpose for which it was received or for a purpose unrelated to the person's legal access to the confidential information, such as solicitation of political contributions or solicitation of clients.” An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor and a violation under this section constitutes official misconduct. The Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 302 Office of the Attorney General

**LBB Staff:** JK, WK, RR, BL