

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

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

**May 7, 2003**

**TO:** Honorable Bill Ratliff, Chair, Senate Committee on State Affairs

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

**IN RE: HB2261** by West, George "Buddy" (Relating to the composition of the Eighth and Eleventh courts of appeals districts.), **As Engrossed**

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

The bill would amend Government Code, Chapter 22 relating to the composition of the Eighth and the Eleventh courts of appeals districts. The bill would remove Ector, Gaines, Glasscock, Martin, and Midland counties from the Eighth Court of Appeals District and would add those same counties to the Eleventh Court of Appeals District. According to the Eighth Court of Appeals, a significant percentage of the court's cases filed originate in the designated counties. The bill would move any new cases filed to the Eleventh Court of Appeals in a proportionate amount.

Under the bill, the Eighth Court of Appeals may realize savings for fewer cases filed, and the Eleventh Court of Appeals may realize costs for additional cases filed; however, due to the net effect of savings and costs, the fiscal implication to the state is not anticipated to be significant. Additionally, this estimate assumes that the bill would not effect the Supreme Court's program to equalize the dockets of the courts of appeals for the number of new cases filed each year per justice. This estimate assumes under the equalization of the dockets program, the Eighth Court of Appeals would receive more case transfers from other courts, and the Eleventh Court of Appeals would receive fewer case transfers.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 228 Eighth Court of Appeals District, El Paso, 231 Eleventh Court of Appeals District, Eastland

**LBB Staff:** JK, RR, SD, VDS, TB, KG