

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 78TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 7, 2003

TO: Honorable Chris Harris, Chair, Senate Committee on Administration

FROM: John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2989 by Capelo (Relating to an inquest when a body part is found and to the qualifications of a person conducting an inquest.), **As Engrossed**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would require a justice of the peace to conduct an inquest into the death of a person who dies in the county served by the justice if the body or a body part of a person is found. Other requirements regarding the finding or possession of a body part are also delineated in the proposed statute, including that the justice of the peace, rather than the medical examiner, may request the aid of a forensic anthropologist in examining the body or body part. The bill would take effect September 1, 2003 and apply only to the discovery of a body part of a person that is made on or after that date.

Under existing law, the requirements of the proposed amendments to statute apply to a whole body. The bill would require that processes related to dealing with a whole dead body would also apply to a body part.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies:

LBB Staff: JK, SD, EB, DLBa