LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 78TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 16, 2003

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

FROM: John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3168 by Giddings (Relating to determination of workers' compensation benefits and to dispute resolution regarding those benefits.), **As Engrossed**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill amends the Labor Code to allow an alternative medical dispute resolution process for lowcost medical services in the workers' compensation system. The Texas Workers' Compensation Commission indicates some costs may be associated with implementation of the bill. It is assumed that any costs associated with implementation of the bill could be absorbed with current resources.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 453 Workers' Compensation Commission, 478 Research and Oversight Council on Workers' Compensation, 479 State Office of Risk Management
LBB Staff: JK, RR, JRO, RT, JW