

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

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

**May 14, 2003**

**TO:** Honorable Kenneth Armbrister, Chair, Senate Committee on Natural Resources

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

**IN RE: HB3338** by Puente (Relating to the performance of a water audit by a retail public utility providing potable water.), **As Engrossed**

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

The bill would require all retail public water suppliers to perform and file a water audit computing the utilities' most recent annual water loss every five years. The bill would require the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to develop, based on population, appropriate methodologies and submission dates for five categories of retail public water suppliers. Basic criteria to be included in the methodologies are stated in the bill. The TWDB would also be required to compile information by category and regional planning area for use by the regional planning groups in identifying appropriate water management strategies in the regional water plans. The water audit would have to be completed and filed prior to receiving financial assistance from the TWDB.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2003.

The TWDB estimates that the costs involved with implementing the provisions of the bill could be absorbed using existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

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

**Source Agencies:** 580 Water Development Board, 582 Commission on Environmental Quality

**LBB Staff:** JK, CL, DLBa