

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

**FISCAL NOTE, 78TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**  
**Revision 2**

**March 24, 2003**

**TO:** Honorable Joe Nixon, Chair, House Committee on Civil Practices

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

**IN RE: HJR3** by Nixon (Proposing a constitutional amendment concerning civil lawsuits against doctors and health care providers, and other actions, authorizing the legislature to determine limitations on non-economic damages.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

**No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated**, other than the cost of publication.

The cost to the state for publication of the resolution is \$475,584.

The bill would propose a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to determine limits for non-economic damages in medical or health care liability. The proposed constitutional amendment would be held on September 13, 2003.

According to the Secretary of State, presenting one constitutional amendment on a ballot results in higher costs because economies of scales are lost. The estimated cost of \$475,584 would include \$314,062 for postage, \$50,872 for printing, \$110,500 for newspaper advertising, and \$150 for translation costs. According to the Secretary of State, these costs are similar to those experienced in November 2002 when one constitutional amendment was presented to voters.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 307 Secretary of State

**LBB Staff:** JK, GO, MS