

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

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

**April 9, 2003**

**TO:** Honorable Robert Duncan, Chair, Senate Committee on Jurisprudence

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

**IN RE: SB134** by Estes (Relating to the creation of an additional judicial district in Parker County.),  
**As Introduced**

**Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds** for SB134, As Introduced: a negative impact of (\$258,730) through the biennium ending August 31, 2005.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

**General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds</b>
2004	(\$129,365)
2005	(\$129,365)
2006	(\$129,365)
2007	(\$129,365)
2008	(\$129,365)

**All Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Probable Savings/(Cost) from GENERAL REVENUE FUND 1</b>	<b>Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2003</b>
2004	(\$129,365)	1.0
2005	(\$129,365)	1.0
2006	(\$129,365)	1.0
2007	(\$129,365)	1.0
2008	(\$129,365)	1.0

**Fiscal Analysis**

The bill would amend Government Code, Chapter 24 to create a new judicial district, the 413th Judicial District, composed of Parker County. The bill would make other changes to the Government Code and the Human Resources Code related to the creation of an additional district court in Parker County. The bill would take effect September 1, 2003.

**Methodology**

The salary of a district court judge is currently \$101,700 annually. Associated benefits for the position are estimated to be \$27,665 annually. Together salary and benefits for the district judge of the proposed court would be \$129,365 in fiscal year 2004 and each year thereafter. All other costs are paid by the county.

## **Local Government Impact**

The Parker County Auditor provided an estimate of local costs, which would include salaries and benefits for ancillary court personnel and other operating expenses. The total cost to Parker County for FY 2004 is estimated at \$338,454. In FY 2005, the estimated cost would be \$338,309. In FY 2006, the estimated cost would be \$348,458. In FY 2007, the estimated cost would be \$358,912. In FY 2008, the estimated cost would be \$604,123. The Parker County Auditor indicates that projected caseload increases will require additional court personnel in FY 2008. The bill would also allow the commissioners court of Parker County to pay the judge of the newly created district court an annual salary supplement not to exceed \$7,800.

**Source Agencies:** 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts

**LBB Staff:** JK, GO, VDS, TB, KG, DLBa