

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

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

**April 7, 2003**

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

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

**IN RE: SB899** by Averitt (Relating to the fees of office and reimbursement of directors of groundwater conservation districts.), **As Introduced**

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

The bill would repeal Section 36.060(d), Water Code, which currently establishes, with the exception of Section 36.052(a), that Section 36.060 prevails over any other law in conflict with or inconsistent with it regarding fees of office for a director of a groundwater conservation district. Additionally, the repeal would remove the requirement that if application of the section results in an increase in the fees of office for any district, the district's board would have to first authorize payment of the higher fees. The bill would take effect immediately if it receives a two-thirds vote in each house; otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2003.

If a district board has not authorized payment of fees as limited in Subsection (a), which states the fees may not exceed \$150 a day for time actually spent in the performance of district duties, not to exceed \$9,000 annually, and if there is other statute governing the district that addresses fees, if application of Subsection (a) would result in an increase in district fees of office, an increase would not have to be approved by the district board. The limit of no more than \$150 a day for each day spent in performance of duties, not to exceed \$9,000 annually, would still apply. The amount of the fee could also be less than those amounts if Subsection (a) is the only section that applies to a district with regard to fees of office.

**Local Government Impact**

The fiscal impact would vary by groundwater conservation district, depending on what fees, if any are currently paid to the directors and what other statute may apply to a specific district.

**Source Agencies:**

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