LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 78TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 11, 2003

TO: Honorable Frank Madla, Chair, Senate Committee on Intergovernmental Relations

FROM: John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB1303 by Madla (Relating to certain appointment and employment matters affecting a county auditor, assistant auditor, or court reporter.), **As Introduced**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would increase a county auditor's term of office from two years to four years. It would also change the time frame in which notice is required to be posted regarding a hearing for setting the salary for the county auditor, assistant county auditor, and court reporters. Additionally, provisions of the bill would repeal Section 152.032, Local Government Code, removing limitations on the county auditor's compensation and allowances in Bexar County.

The proposed change in terms of office would apply only to a county officer appointed for a full term beginning on or after the effective date of the bill. The proposed change in posting notice would apply only to a hearing held on or after the effective date of the bill. The bill would take effect July 1, 2003 if it receives a two-thirds vote in each house; otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2003.

Increasing the term of office for a county auditor would produce a small savings in election costs by having the position on the ballot every four years instead of every two years. The change to the timeframe for when a hearing notice is required to be posted would have no fiscal impact. The effect of the removal of the cap for the county auditor's salary in Bexar County would be based on decisions made by the county commissioners court of Bexar County.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies:

LBB Staff: JK, DLBa