

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

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

**May 20, 2003**

**TO:** Honorable Glenn Lewis, Chair, House Committee on County Affairs

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

**IN RE: SB1731** by Gallegos (Relating to fees imposed by certain counties for the preservation, restoration, and management of certain county records.), **As Engrossed**

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

The bill would authorize a county commissioners court to adopt a records archive fee as part of the county's annual budget. The county clerk in a county where the county commissioners court adopts the collection of a fee for records archival would be required to collect not more than \$5 as the fee. The bill would take effect September 1, 2003.

Under current statute, only the county clerk in a county adjacent to an international boundary may collect a records archive fee. The provisions of the bill would remove the limitation and authorize all county commissioners courts to adopt a records archive fee.

If a county were to implement the provisions of the bill and charge a fee of no more than \$5, the county would experience a revenue gain. For example, if Harris County were to charge the maximum \$5 fee, the county would have experienced a revenue gain of approximately \$4.7 million between March 2002 and February 2003 when it processed 934,713 applicable filings. Tarrant County estimates an annual revenue gain of between \$1.8 million and \$2.0 million if it were to implement the fee and set it at the maximum of \$5.

**Local Government Impact**

If a county were to implement the records archive fee, even at a minimum amount, there would be a revenue gain. The gain per county would vary depending on the number of applicable records filed and the amount at which the commissioners court would choose to set the fee.

**Source Agencies:**

**LBB Staff:** JK, DLBa