

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 79TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 3, 2005

TO: Honorable John Whitmire, Chair, Senate Committee on Criminal Justice

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Deputy Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB268 by Keel (Relating to the qualifications and appointment of counsel for indigent defendants in capital cases.), **As Engrossed**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

This bill would require the Task Force on Indigent Defense to set standards for attorneys who are to be appointed to represent indigent defendants applying for a writ of habeas corpus seeking relief from the death penalty. The bill also would authorize the Task Force to maintain a list of qualified attorneys and allows the court of criminal appeals to annually review the list of attorneys qualified for appointment.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council

LBB Staff: JOB, WP, LB, KJG