

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 79TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 18, 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.), **Committee Report 2nd House, As Amended**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would set guidelines for the qualifications and appointment of counsel for indigent defendants in capital cases. The bill would authorize the Task Force on Indigent Defense to adopt standards and maintain a list of qualified attorneys and would allow 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:

LBB Staff: JOB, WP, LB, KJG