

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**

**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 79TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 31, 2005**

**TO:** Honorable Norma Chavez, Chair, House Committee on Border and International Affairs

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

**IN RE: HB805** by Martinez (Relating to allowing certain emergency and hospital personnel to take the thumbprint of certain people who receive emergency prehospital care. ), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

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

The bill would authorize emergency medical services personnel or emergency room medical or admissions personnel to take the thumbprint of a person who receives emergency prehospital care under certain circumstances, such as if the hospital has digital fingerprinting capabilities. The bill would take effect September 1, 2005.

**Local Government Impact**

If an emergency medical service or hospital is owned or operated by a local government entity, has digital fingerprinting capabilities, and were to choose to take a thumbprint of persons meeting the criteria of the bill, the entity would incur costs associated with processing the prints for determining a person's identity. Those costs are not expected to have a significant fiscal impact. If a local government owned or operated hospital were to purchase digital fingerprinting equipment, the Department of Public Safety indicates the cost, depending on specifications of the equipment sought, averages about \$12,000 per unit.

**Source Agencies:** 405 Department of Public Safety, 529 Health and Human Services Commission

**LBB Staff:** JOB, CL, DLBa