

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

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

**May 19, 2005**

**TO:** Honorable Todd Staples, Chair, Senate Committee on Transportation & Homeland Security

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

**IN RE: HB1816** by West, George "Buddy" (Relating to the transfer of powers and duties over railroads from the Railroad Commission of Texas to the Texas Department of Transportation.), **As Engrossed**

<b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b>
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The bill would transfer all powers and duties of the Railroad Commission relating to railroads and the regulation of railroads to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) effective October 1, 2005.

Passage of the bill would result in \$906,212 in General Revenue appropriations and 16.1 FTEs being transferred from the Railroad Commission to TxDOT. This amount is based on the current budget of the Railroad Commission's rail safety program. This program is currently funded by fees that cover all direct and indirect program costs. For purposes of this analysis, it is assumed that if the program were transferred to TxDOT, the rail safety program would continue to be self-supporting.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 455 Railroad Commission, 601 Department of Transportation

**LBB Staff:** JOB, SR, WK, ZS, TL