

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: HB2296 by Cook, Robby (Relating to the reduction of a state jail felony prosecution to a misdemeanor prosecution.), **As Engrossed**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Penal Code by allowing the court to authorize, at the request of the prosecuting attorney, the prosecution of a state jail felony as a Class A misdemeanor. By potentially lowering the range of sanctions for selected offenders, the bill could potentially decrease community supervision and incarceration expenses. Such savings would depend on the extent to which the punishment for state jail felons would be decreased as provided by the bill.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies:

LBB Staff: JOB, KJG, GG