

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 79TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 31, 2005

TO: Honorable Robert Puente, Chair, House Committee on Natural Resources

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

IN RE: HB2541 by Puente (Relating to exempting interbasin transfers of water rights within regional water planning areas from certain priority requirements.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would provide exemptions from the junior water rights provisions for certain interbasin transfers of water. Certain transfers between basins located wholly or partly within a single regional water planning area would be exempt from the junior water rights provisions. Enactment of the bill is not expected to have a significant fiscal impact to any state agency.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated. Passage of the bill could result in some municipalities being able to obtain water more easily and possibly at a reduced cost, since the bill would permit transfers of water between basins otherwise prohibited under current law.

Source Agencies: 580 Water Development Board, 582 Commission on Environmental Quality

LBB Staff: JOB, WK, ZS, TL