

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

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

**April 10, 2005**

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

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

**IN RE: HB3029** by Strama (Relating to eligibility of nonborder areas for certain state assistance.), **As Introduced**

<b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b>
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The bill would amend the Water Code to broaden the eligibility for nonborder counties to qualify for certain state assistance. The bill would take effect immediately if it receives a two-thirds vote in each house; otherwise, it is assumed it would take effect September 1, 2005 (the bill indicates it would take effect September 1, 2003 if it does not receive the two-thirds vote).

Broadening the criteria could result in an increase in the number of entities eligible for state financial assistance under various sections of the Water Code, and thereby the demand for such assistance; however, it is not expected to result in significant cost increases to the state because such entities would already be eligible for existing similar state agency programs.

**Local Government Impact**

The bill could result in certain political subdivisions being eligible for additional grant funds and loan assistance at reduced interest rates; however, since such entities would likely be eligible for similar financial assistance programs under current law, no significant fiscal implications are expected.

**Source Agencies:** 580 Water Development Board

**LBB Staff:** JOB, WK, DLBa