

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 79TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 9, 2005

TO: Honorable Jane Nelson, Chair, Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

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

IN RE: SB46 by Nelson (Relating to the establishment of a method to integrate benefits issuance recipient identification for health and human services programs.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would authorize the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to develop and implement a method to consolidate recipient identification and benefits issuance if determined to be feasible and cost-effective. The bill would require the commission to assess the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of a method to consolidate recipient identification and benefits issuance and would authorize the commission to require the assistance of any health and human services agency and the Department of Information Resources.

It is assumed the commission would not develop or implement a method that were not determined to be feasible or cost-effective. The commission indicates that it has contracted for a feasibility study of a universal services card in the current biennium.

Implementation of a method to consolidate recipient identification and benefits issuance could potentially result in a savings to the state. However, an estimate has not been prepared at this time. The results of the study required by the bill should indicate the nature of the fiscal impact.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 313 Department of Information Resources, 320 Texas Workforce Commission, 529 Health and Human Services Commission

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