

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

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

**April 5, 2005**

**TO:** Honorable Jeff Wentworth, Chair, Senate Committee on Jurisprudence

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

**IN RE: SB1459** by Wentworth (Relating to the assignment of certain visiting judges.), **As Introduced**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would amend Section 74.054(5) of the Government Code. It would remove the requirement that an active supreme court, court of criminal appeals or court of appeals judge have trial experience in order to serve on assignment under Chapter 74.

The Office of Court Administration reports the bill may have a slight fiscal savings to the state judiciary in that an active judge assigned to hear a case does not receive additional salary compensation from the state. If a former or retired judge is assigned to hear a case, they are paid a salary from the funds appropriated for visiting judges. The savings are not expected to be significant.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council

**LBB Staff:** JOB, ZS, LB