

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 80TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 3, 2007

TO: Honorable Tracy King, Chair, House Committee on Border & International Affairs

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

IN RE: HB2155 by Escobar (Relating to the use of grant money received from the criminal justice division of the governor's office.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill requires the Criminal Justice Division (CJD) in the Office of the Governor to prioritize grants awarded to local entities under 42 U.S.C. Section 3751 (Justice Assistance Grants relating to drug control and system improvement grant programs) to the border regions. The bill authorizes the CJD to contract with the grant recipient to ensure such a grant will be used for the intended purpose.

The bill provides the contract require the border law enforcement operations of the grant recipient to be under the command and control of the Department of Public Safety (DPS), and that the grant recipient report to DPS the effectiveness of the recipient's border law enforcement operations.

Currently, border law enforcement operations are under command and control of the DPS director. DPS indicates there would be costs due to increased workload, but it is assumed the costs could be absorbed within the agency's current appropriations and therefore would not result in a significant fiscal impact to the state.

Local Government Impact

It is anticipated that local government entities in the border regions would experience a positive fiscal impact from additional federal grant amounts. It can also be assumed that local government entities not in the border regions would experience a corresponding negative fiscal impact.

Source Agencies: 301 Office of the Governor, 405 Department of Public Safety

LBB Staff: JOB, CL, SD, SMi