

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**

**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 80TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 14, 2007**

**TO:** Honorable Judith Zaffirini, Chair, Senate Committee on S/C on Higher Education

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

**IN RE: HB2198** by Flores (Relating to authorizing certain public junior colleges to offer baccalaureate degree programs.), **Committee Report 2nd House, As Amended**

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

This bill would permit the Higher Education Coordinating Board to authorize up to four new baccalaureate degree programs at the three community college districts currently offering a baccalaureate degree program in applied science and technology (Midland College, Brazosport College and South Texas College).

**Local Government Impact**

The establishment of additional baccalaureate degree programs at the three community college districts currently authorized to offer such programs would require a considerable commitment of resources on the part of these districts to cover start-up and operating costs. Such costs include, but are not limited to, securing SACS accreditation, upgrading facilities and libraries to accommodate upper division coursework, and costs associated with faculty salary and workload. These local costs would be offset by any state contributions for "start-up" funding.

**Source Agencies:** 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board

**LBB Staff:** JOB, MN, RT, JAW