

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 80TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 21, 2007

TO: Honorable Harold V. Dutton, Jr., Chair, House Committee on Juvenile Justice & Family Issues

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

IN RE: HB3022 by Heflin (Relating to reimbursement by the state for attorney ad litem fees paid by counties in certain suits affecting the parent-child relationship.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

Although the bill would not make an appropriation, it would establish the basis for an appropriation.

The bill would amend the Family Code to require the Comptroller of Public Accounts, upon request of a county, to reimburse the county for fees paid under Section 107 from funds appropriated for attorney ad litem fees. If the comptroller does not make payment within 60 days of the request, the county would be authorized to suspend further attorney ad litem payments.

The bill would take effect immediately if it were to receive the required two-thirds vote in each house; otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2007.

According to the Comptroller of Public Accounts, since reimbursement of fees would be contingent upon the existence of funds made available solely for the purposes of the reimbursement, there would be no fiscal impact to the state.

Local Government Impact

Fiscal impact to counties would be contingent upon available funds.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts

LBB Staff: JOB, MN, DB