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LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 80TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 15, 2007

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

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

IN RE: **SB231** by Harris (Relating to child support enforcement.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would allow the state's Title IV-D agency to transmit records and information regarding a suit affecting a parent-child relationship order to the bureau of vital statistics. The bill would also provide clarification that Title IV-D fees assessed can be collected via a lien and permit a financial institution to deduct any fees owed under its contractual arrangement with a child support obligor before it honors a child support levy. In addition, the bill would make financial institutions liable for costs and attorney fees for failure to comply with a child support notice of levy. Furthermore, the bill would permit the state to charge a $25 annual service fee and provide clarification that any fee imposed against an obligor is part of the child support obligation and can be collected by any method available for enforcing child support.

The bill would also repeal several provisions of the family code. Those provisions include the requirement that a child support obligor more than 6 months delinquent is not eligible to receive student financial assistance paid directly by the Comptroller.

Based on analysis of the bill, any additional duties and responsibilities associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be accomplished by utilizing current resources.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2007.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 302 Office of the Attorney General, 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts

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