

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 80TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 9, 2007

TO: Honorable John Whitmire, Chair, Senate Committee on Criminal Justice

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

IN RE: SB411 by Shapleigh (Relating to dog attacks on persons; creating an offense.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Health and Safety Code by creating as a state jail felony if a person is the owner of a dog that makes an unprovoked attack on another person at a location other than the owner's property or of a dangerous dog that makes an unprovoked attack outside a secure enclosure and the attack causes serious bodily injury. If the attack were to cause death, the offense would be a third degree felony.

In addition to criminal prosecution, a person who commits an offense would be liable for a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000. An attorney for the municipality or the county in which the offense occurs would be authorized to file suit to collect the penalty; the municipality or county would retain the penalties collected.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 696 Department of Criminal Justice

LBB Staff: JOB, ES, DB, GG