

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

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

**March 14, 2007**

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

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

**IN RE: SB539** by West, Royce (Relating to the filing of certain information by arbitrators after each arbitration.), **As Introduced**

<p><b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b></p>
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The bill would amend the Civil Practices and Remedies Code to require arbitrators, within 90 days of an arbitration award being signed, to file an arbitration disclosure with the Office of Court Administration (OCA). Additionally, any agreement of the parties to limit disclosure must be evidenced by a form signed by the parties that is to be filed with OCA. OCA must establish procedures and a fee for the late filing of an arbitration award, must compile a semi-annual list of arbitrators who are ineligible to arbitrate because of failure to timely file awards, and must establish procedures for removing an arbitrator from the ineligible list. OCA reports these measures could be established utilizing the agency's current resources. The bill would be effective September 1, 2007.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council

**LBB Staff:** JOB, MN, ZS, TB