

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

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

**March 26, 2007**

**TO:** Honorable Kip Averitt, Chair, Senate Committee on Natural Resources

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

**IN RE: SB616** by Duncan (Relating to the protection and use of intellectual property by the executive administrator of the Texas Water Development Board.), **As Introduced**

<b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b>
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The bill includes language which would give the Executive Administrator of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) the power to obtain certain intellectual property rights. The agency would like the ability to pursue intellectual property rights, such as a copyright or trademarks for items such as publications, logos and slogans associated with agency research, marketing and public outreach programs, and events celebrating the agency's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The TWDB estimates that the agency might need as much as \$15,000 per year to contract with an intellectual property attorney to handle the various copyrights, trademarks or patents the agency may pursue. It is anticipated that these costs could be absorbed within existing agency resources.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 580 Water Development Board

**LBB Staff:** JOB, JF, WK, ZS