

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 30, 2009

TO: Honorable Pete Gallego, Chair, House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence

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

IN RE: HB221 by Menendez (Relating to delaying parole eligibility for an individual convicted of certain violent offenses who evades arrest.), **As Introduced**

<p>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</p>
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The bill would amend the Government Code as it relates to the parole eligibility of certain offenders by delaying the parole eligibility date if the offenders evaded arrest. For every twelve months between the date the arrest warrant is issued for the offender and the date the offender is arrested, the earliest date of parole eligibility would be delayed six years for the offenses of sexual assault and aggravated sexual assault if the victim is younger than 14 years of age and three years for the offenses of sexual assault, aggravated sexual assault, and murder.

The bill would take effect on September 1, 2009 and would apply to the parole eligibility of offenders serving a sentence for murder, aggravated sexual assault, or sexual assault committed on or after the effective date.

Given the proposal would apply to offenses committed on or after September 1, 2009 and that under current law and policy individuals convicted of murder, aggravated sexual assault, and sexual assault serve a high percentage of their sentence, the impact of this proposal would not be significant in the first five years of implementation.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies: 696 Department of Criminal Justice

LBB Staff: JOB, ESi, GG, TMP