

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**

**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**April 30, 2009**

**TO:** Honorable Patrick M. Rose, Chair, House Committee on Human Services

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

**IN RE: HB583** by Dukes (Relating to expansion of the electronic eligibility information pilot project operated by the Health and Human Services Commission.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to expand, not later than September 1, 2010, the pilot program relating to electronic importation of eligibility information from regional safety net collaborative organizations to one additional urban area of this state under certain conditions.

The bill would require HHSC, in its continuing establishment of the pilot program, to create a project in which regional indigent care networks interface with HHSC through the Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System (TIERS), or another state electronic eligibility system, as appropriate, to share electronic applications for indigent care created by the care network with HHSC to facilitate enrollment in programs administered by HHSC, and automatically import application information submitted with minimal human intervention. The bill would require HHSC to provide a monthly statistical report to each safety net provider collaborative organization that submits an application and to the Legislative Budget Board containing certain information.

The bill would require HHSC to conduct an evaluation of the program and report its findings to the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives having primary jurisdiction over health and human services issues by December 15, 2011.

The agency assumes that the cost of the bill would not be significant and could be absorbed within existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

Because the bill would not have statewide impact on units of local government of the same type or class, no comment from this office is required by the rules of the House/Senate as to its probable fiscal implication on units of local government.

**Source Agencies:** 529 Health and Human Services Commission

**LBB Staff:** JOB, JJ, CL, MB