

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 16, 2009

TO: Honorable Allan Ritter, Chair, House Committee on Natural Resources

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

IN RE: HB1318 by Legler (Relating to the eligibility, service, and removal of persons appointed to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would remove the prohibition of a member of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) or his or her spouse being employed by or participating in the management of an entity or organization regulated by or receiving money from the TCEQ. The bill also would remove the prohibition of a member of the TCEQ or his or her spouse owning or controlling more than 10 percent of an organization or entity that is regulated by or receives money from the TCEQ. The bill would add provisions that would require a commission member who is employed by, participates in the management of, or has a significant financial interest in an entity (that has a direct interest in a matter before the TCEQ) to disclose this to the commission, recuse himself or herself from deliberations on this matter, and abstain from voting on this matter.

The bill also would repeal provisions that nullify provisions relating to employment restrictions if those provisions affect Texas' National Pollution Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) delegation.

The TCEQ reports that the agency does not expect passage of the bill to affect Texas' NPDES delegation, and therefore this estimate does not anticipate the loss of any Federal Funds associated with NPDES.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies: 582 Commission on Environmental Quality

LBB Staff: JOB, WK, ZS, TL