

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 15, 2009

TO: Honorable Lois W. Kolkhorst, Chair, House Committee on Public Health

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

IN RE: HB1392 by Leibowitz (Relating to required procedures regarding the ranking of physicians by health benefit plan issuers.), **As Introduced**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would provide a number of protections for physicians if a health benefit plan were to rank physicians. The bill would require a health benefit plan that intends to rank physicians to disclose the standards or criteria to the physician before disseminating the ranking to the public. The bill would establish due process rights for the physician to dispute the ranking, including a required notice of intent from the health benefit plan and the right to a hearing for a physician. The bill would explicitly set the burden of proof on the health benefit plan. The bill would permit a district court to issue a writ of injunction if a health benefit plan were to fail to meet those requirements.

It is not anticipated that these requirements would have any fiscal impact to the state.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies: 454 Department of Insurance

LBB Staff: JOB, CL, JI, HC