

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 17, 2009

TO: Honorable Jim McReynolds, Chair, House Committee on Corrections

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

IN RE: HB1481 by Madden (Relating to certain offenses regarding the possession or use of a cellular telephone by an inmate or defendant in a correctional or detention facility and to the detection and monitoring of that possession or use.), **As Introduced**

<p>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</p>
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The bill would amend the Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure, Government Code, and Human Resources Code relating to the possession and use of a cellular telephone by an inmate of a correctional facility operated by or under contract with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) or a person in custody of the Texas Youth Commission (TYC) or any other juveniles held in secure detention facilities. The bill would allow the Office of the Inspector General for both TDCJ and TYC to purchase and operate equipment to intercept electronic communications within their respective institutions. It is assumed that the cost to TDCJ to purchase and operate equipment would not be significant. It is also assumed that through a memorandum of understanding affected between the two agencies, TYC would be able to utilize the electronic interception devices on a case by case basis. If TYC does not establish such an arrangement with TDCJ, the cost of purchasing equipment by TYC would be significant.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies: 694 Youth Commission, 696 Department of Criminal Justice

LBB Staff: JOB, ESi, GG