

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 14, 2009

TO: Honorable Todd Hunter, Chair, House Committee on Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence

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

IN RE: HB1898 by Shelton (Relating to notice required for certain recreational activities on premises owned, operated, or maintained by a governmental unit.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Civil Practice and Remedies Code to require a governmental unit that owns, operates, or maintains a premise on which bicycling activities are allowed to post and maintain a clearly readable sign with a warning message regarding the governmental entity's limited liability for damages arising directly from that activity.

According to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), the estimated cost for a 24x24 metal sign is approximately \$90 with an additional \$3.63 for shipping and \$16 for "hardware" such as nuts and bolts for a per sign cost of \$109.63. With an estimated 143 signs needed, the total estimated cost for the signs would be approximately \$15,677. In addition, the estimated cost for the graphic design of the sign would be approximately \$1,600, and the costs for temporary labor for installing the signs would be approximately \$7,920. The total cost of the signs, the design, and installation would be \$25,197. Of the total amount, \$19,156 would be from the General Revenue-Dedicated State Parks Account No. 64 and \$6,041 would be from the General Revenue-Dedicated Game, Fish and Water Safety Account No. 9.

Based on the Legislative Budget Board's analysis of TPWD's duties and responsibilities related to implementing bill provisions, it is anticipated TPWD could reasonably absorb any additional costs within the department's existing resources.

Local Government Impact

A local government entity to which the provisions apply would incur costs to replace existing signs with the updated warning signs. Costs would depend on how many signs would be required. According to TPWD, estimated costs start at \$110 per sign.

Source Agencies: 802 Parks and Wildlife Department

LBB Staff: JOB, MN, DB