

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 15, 2009

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

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

IN RE: HB3372 by Deshotel (Relating to certain inmates entering certain pleas by closed circuit video conferencing.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Code of Criminal Procedure to require that a court accept certain misdemeanor pleas via teleconferencing. The bill would apply to offenders incarcerated in a facility operated by or under contract with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, following a felony conviction that is also charged with having committed the misdemeanor offense. The Texas Department of Criminal Justice and the Office of Court Administration have determined that the cost of implementing the provisions of this bill would not be significant.

Local Government Impact

Local governments that do not currently have the technology available to accept pleas as required by the bill could incur some costs; however, according to the County and District Clerk Association, those costs are not anticipated to be significant.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 696 Department of Criminal Justice

LBB Staff: JOB, ESi, GG, SDO, TP