

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 25, 2009**

**TO:** Honorable Craig Estes, Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture & Rural Affairs

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

**IN RE: SB344** by Nelson (Relating to the establishment of an advisory committee to study the acceptance at farmers markets of food stamps and benefits under the women, infants, and children supplemental food program. ), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

<p><b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b></p>
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The bill would create an advisory committee to determine the costs, benefits, and feasibility of providing food stamp and Women, Infants, and Children (W.I.C.) program participants with the ability to use program benefits at farmers markets to purchase fresh produce.

The Department of Agriculture and the Health and Human Services Commission indicates that any costs associated with the bill could be absorbed within each agency's existing resources.

The bill would take effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all members elected to each house; otherwise it would take effect September 1, 2009.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 529 Health and Human Services Commission, 551 Department of Agriculture

**LBB Staff:** JOB, WK, AH