

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 30, 2009

TO: Honorable John Whitmire, Chair, Senate Committee on Criminal Justice

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

IN RE: SB1976 by Whitmire (Relating to procedures for applications for writs of habeas corpus based on scientific evidence establishing the innocence of a criminal defendant.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Code of Criminal Procedure relating to procedures for applications for writs of habeas corpus based on scientific evidence establishing the innocence of a criminal defendant. The bill would slightly broaden the circumstances under which a convicted person could obtain relief on an application for habeas corpus. To the extent the bill would modify those circumstances, the rules change is not anticipated to significantly increase the workload of the courts. The bill would take effect September 1, 2009.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council

LBB Staff: JOB, ESi, ZS, JP, TB