

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 82ND LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 28, 2011

TO: Honorable Richard Pena Raymond, Chair, House Committee on Human Services

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

IN RE: HB3397 by Allen (Relating to the eligibility of and requirements applicable to certain persons for supplemental nutrition assistance.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would remove the disqualification of individuals with certain drug-related convictions from Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits (previously known as the food stamp program). The bill would take effect on September 1, 2011.

If a state's legislature lifts the disqualification of applicants with a felony drug conviction, federal regulations will allow for a state to opt out of the otherwise federally-required provision. The Health and Human Services Commission anticipates there would be a slight increase in the number of individuals eligible for SNAP benefits and for referral to the Texas Workforce Commission for employment and training services. This analysis assumes duties and responsibilities associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be accomplished by utilizing existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 320 Texas Workforce Commission, 529 Health and Human Services Commission

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