

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 82ND LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 25, 2011

TO: Honorable Jane Nelson, Chair, Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

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

IN RE: SB229 by Nelson (Relating to newborn hearing screenings and hearing services for certain children.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend Chapter 47 of the Health and Safety Code by revising the definition of birthing facility to include more facilities. A licensed midwife who attends the birth of a newborn is not required to offer a hearing screening for the newborn; however, the bill would require a licensed midwife who attends births that do not occur at a birthing facility to refer the parents to a birthing facility or provider for their newborn's screening. The bill would require specified facilities to report resulting information to the Department of State Health Services. The bill also describes duties of providers that receive a referral from a program under this chapter. The bill would take effect September 1, 2011.

The Department of State Health Services indicates that the bill would have no significant fiscal impact because the majority of facilities that would be affected by the change in statute are already reporting screening results, and promulgation of rules would be accomplished with existing staff resources.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 537 State Health Services, Department of

LBB Staff: JOB, CL, MB, VJC, NB