

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 82ND LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 9, 2011

TO: Honorable John Carona, Chair, Senate Committee on Business & Commerce

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

IN RE: SB566 by Williams (Relating to the regulation of the practice of public accountancy.),
Committee Report 1st House, Substituted

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Occupations Code relating to the regulation of the practice of public accountancy. The bill would clarify disclosure requirements and would amend the disciplinary guidelines for persons practicing public accountancy without a license. The bill would repeal restrictions on the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy relating to the collections of fees or penalties. The bill would repeal requirements on the agency relating to persons who fail an examination.

Costs associated with the implementation of the bill for the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy are not considered in this analysis because fiscal impacts for this agency would be realized outside of the Treasury due to the agency being Self-Directed and Semi-Independent.

Based on the analysis of the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH), the bill would cause an increase in hearings provided for the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy. However, it is assumed that SOAH would bill the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy at its authorized rate for the cost associated with the additional hearings and that the cost associated with the additional hearings would not constitute a significant impact to the state.

This analysis assumes that any required duties and responsibilities associated with implementing the provisions of the bill by the Securities Board could be accomplished by utilizing existing resources within the agency.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 312 Securities Board, 360 State Office of Administrative Hearings, 457 Board of Public Accountancy

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