

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 82ND LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 31, 2011

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

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

IN RE: SB1480 by Hegar (Relating to the regulation of exotic aquatic species by the Parks and Wildlife Department; providing penalties.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend portions of the Parks and Wildlife Code related to provide that upon leaving a public or private body of water, an individual will remove any prohibited aquatic plant attached to the person's vessel, trailer, or motor vehicle. The bill would require the Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW) Commission to adopt a list of exotic aquatic plants that may not be imported or possessed without a permit, with certain exceptions. The bill would direct the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to consult with the Department of Agriculture under certain provisions. The bill would amend sections relating to punishment and violations. The bill would take immediate effect if the bill receives two-thirds the vote of all members in both houses. Otherwise, the bill would take effect September 1, 2011.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 551 Department of Agriculture, 554 Animal Health Commission, 802 Parks and Wildlife Department

LBB Staff: JOB, SZ, TB