

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 82ND LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 6, 2011

TO: Honorable Jeff Wentworth, Chair, Senate Committee on Open Government, Select

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

IN RE: SB1826 by Gallegos (relating to the definition in the open meetings law of the term "deliberation."), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Open Meetings Act to clarify that written communications originating from a member of a governmental body related to issues within the body's jurisdiction and circulated among a quorum of the members of the governmental body are included in the act's provisions. The bill would expand the definition of a meeting to include instances where a quorum of members are actively participating in an event in addition to when a quorum is actually present at an event.

This analysis assumes that any costs associated with implementing the bill's provisions could be met with existing resources.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2011.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies: 116 Sunset Advisory Commission, 302 Office of the Attorney General, 405 Department of Public Safety, 454 Department of Insurance, 529 Health and Human Services Commission

LBB Staff: JOB, KY, JT, JI