LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 15, 2013

TO: Honorable Tryon D. Lewis, Chair, House Committee On Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB1016 by Davis, Sarah (Relating to legal representation for civil suits against peace officers employed by a school district.), **As Introduced**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Local Government Code to require a school district to provide a municipal or district employee who is a peace officer, fire fighter, or emergency medical services employee with legal counsel without cost to the employee for certain suits. An employee could recover reasonable attorney's fees from a municipality or a district that fails to provide counsel.

According to the Texas Education Agency (TEA), no direct fiscal implications for the Foundation School Program or the operations of TEA are anticipated.

Local Government Impact

TEA indicated that school districts that are currently providing legal representation would not experience substantive changes, but school districts that are not already providing legal representation for the peace officers they employ could experience new administrative costs. The fiscal implications related to the provisions of the bill would continue beyond fiscal year 2018.

Source Agencies: 701 Central Education Agency **LBB Staff:** UP, CL, TP, JBi