

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 13, 2013**

**TO:** Honorable Harold V. Dutton, Jr., Chair, House Committee On Urban Affairs

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB1091** by Martinez, "Mando" (Relating to firefighters and emergency medical technicians who bring certain claims for benefits or compensation.), **As Introduced**

<p><b>No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b></p>
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The bill would amend the Government Code to include firefighters and emergency medical technicians (EMTs) who seek certain claims for benefits or compensation for a covered illness or disease on leaving employment. A firefighter or an EMT would be required to be employed for five or more years; and the condition must be discovered during employment or not later than the fifth anniversary of the last date of employment.

**Local Government Impact**

There could be significant costs to a local governmental entity, but the amounts would vary depending on the number of applicable incidences and the current policies.

The City of Waco Fire Department reported that the bill will have a fiscal impact on all cities, but the costs are difficult to quantify. The city added that some career firefighters volunteer with Volunteer Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services groups, or work in construction-related jobs on their days off; of which many do not have sufficient protective equipment thereby exposing career firefighters to elements that they may not otherwise be exposed to while on duty with the city.

The City of Houston reported that the fire department has 3,800 firefighters and EMTs; individual costs could be significant, but the amounts could not be estimated.

**Source Agencies:** 411 Commission on Fire Protection

**LBB Staff:** UP, KKR, TP