

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 16, 2013

TO: Honorable Royce West, Chair, Senate Committee on Jurisprudence

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB1245 by Turner, Sylvester (Relating to the allocation of money in the judicial and court personnel training fund.), **As Engrossed**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB1245, As Engrossed: an impact of \$0 through the biennium ending August 31, 2015.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2014	\$0
2015	\$0
2016	\$0
2017	\$0
2018	\$0

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Savings/(Cost) from <i>Jud & Court Training Fd</i> 540
2014	\$0
2015	(\$115,200)
2016	(\$115,200)
2017	(\$115,200)
2018	(\$115,200)

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would amend the Government Code to provide that the Court of Criminal Appeals expand continuing legal education and other support programs for criminal defense attorneys who represent indigent defendants to include personnel working for criminal defense attorneys

representing the indigent.

The bill requires that funds for the purpose specified in the bill come from the funding specified in Government Code Section 53.003(f), which is the General Revenue-Dedicated Judicial and Court Personnel Training Account No. 540. Currently, the Court of Criminal Appeals is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$1,105,000 per year from this account to provide continuing legal education for criminal defense attorneys who regularly represent indigent defendants in criminal matters.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2014.

Methodology

Based on previous information provided by the Court of Criminal Appeals and the Office of Court Administration, this estimate assumes that based on the number of criminal defense lawyers representing indigent defendants trained each year, approximately 300 criminal defense attorney personnel per year would be eligible to receive training under provisions of the bill. This estimate assumes each training participant would receive 12 hours of training at an average cost of \$32 per hour. No costs are anticipated in Fiscal Year 2014 because the bill does not take effect until September 1, 2014.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council

LBB Staff: UP, JP, KKR, CL, ZS, AM