

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

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

**April 25, 2013**

**TO:** Honorable Tan Parker, Chair, House Committee on Corrections

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

**IN RE: HB1318** by Turner, Sylvester (Relating to the appointment of counsel for a detention hearing for certain youths.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

<b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b>
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The bill would require the court to appoint counsel within a reasonable time before the initial detention hearing is held to represent the child at that hearing. The Office of Court Administration (OCA) does not anticipate a significant fiscal impact to the state. No significant impact to juvenile correctional populations is expected from the bill.

**Local Government Impact**

Some counties do not currently provide appointed counsel to children prior to their initial detention hearings; therefore, requiring that counsel be appointed will result in some additional costs to the counties. According to OCA, there were 31,002 juvenile detention hearings conducted statewide in fiscal year 2012. Assuming five percent these cases involved initial detention hearings without an attorney, there would be 1,550 more hearings with counsel. At an approximate cost of \$100 per detention hearing, potential costs would total \$155,000 statewide for county governments. This would not be a significant fiscal impact to counties.

**Source Agencies:** 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 644 Texas Juvenile Justice Department

**LBB Staff:** UP, ESi, KKR, JPo