

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 16, 2013

TO: Honorable Patricia Harless, Chair, House Committee on Environmental Regulation

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB3117** by Burkett (Relating to the authority of the attorney general to settle certain civil suits initiated by a local government.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Water Code to authorize the Office of the Attorney General to enter into settlements of civil enforcement cases involving Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) without the consent of local governments. It is assumed that the OAG and TCEQ would need to update agency policies, procedures, and training material; however, it is anticipated that any costs associated with the bill could be absorbed within existing resources.

Local Government Impact

There could be a fiscal impact to a local governmental entity that would vary depending on the number of suits that are settled and the amount of the settlement for a claim; however, the amounts are not anticipated to be significant.

Source Agencies: 302 Office of the Attorney General

LBB Staff: UP, SZ, EP, JM