LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 29, 2013

TO: Honorable Garnet Coleman, Chair, House Committee on County Affairs

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HJR148** by Coleman (proposing a constitutional amendment to authorize the creation of emergency response districts; providing authority to impose a tax and issue bonds.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated, other than the cost of publication.

The cost to the state for publication of the resolution is $108,921.

This resolution would propose an amendment to Article III, Texas Constitution, by adding new Section 48-d to provide for the creation of emergency and diaster response districts.

The Legislature could create within the state emergency districts for the purposes of protection of the health and welfare of citizens and residents during natural disasters and other emergency situations, protection of property, and preservation and protection of natural resources. The Legislature would be directed to authorize indebtedness to be issued by the districts and the imposition of taxes for debt service and for maintenance of the districts and improvements. Authorization of indebtedness would require approval of the qualified voters of a district. Notice requirements and other procedures would be prescribed with respect to laws creating or amending a law creating such a district.

The proposed constitutional amendment would permit but not require the creation of emergency districts and the issuance of indebtedness and levy of taxes by future legislatures, and would not of itself have any fiscal impact.

The proposed constitutional amendment would be submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 5, 2013, and would be effective thereafter if approved.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts
LBB Staff: UP, KKR, TP, SD, SJS