LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 6, 2013

TO: Honorable Troy Fraser, Chair, Senate Committee On Natural Resources

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB347 by Seliger (Relating to funding for the operations of the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission.), Committee Report 1st House, Substituted

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend Chapter 401 of the Health and Safety Code, regarding radioactive materials and other sources of radiation, and funding for the operations of the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Commission (LLRWDCC).

The bill would require the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to deposit fees assessed to support the activities of the LLRWDCC to the Low-Level Waste Account No. 88. Under current law, those fees are deposited to the General Revenue-Dedicated LLRWDCC Account No. 5151. The bill would require the Comptroller to transfer from the Low-Level Waste Account No. 88 to the LLRWDCC Account No. 5151 an amount equal to the amount appropriated out of the LLRWDCC Account No. 5151 for that state fiscal year. In addition, the bill would require the Comptroller to transfer on September 30th of each fiscal year any unexpended and unencumbered balance in the LLRWDCC Account No. 5151 from the previous fiscal year into the Low-Level Waste Account No. 88.

In the 2012-13 biennium, appropriations for the LLRWDCC were for \$583,289 in each fiscal year. This estimate assumes that the same amount would continue to be appropriated in future fiscal years; thus, it is estimated that \$583,289 would transfer from the Low-Level Waste Account No. 88 to the LLRWDCC Account No. 5151 on September 1, 2013, and in all future fiscal years. Because the fee revenue assessed to support the costs of the LLRWDCC, which now gets deposited to the LLRWDCC Account No. 5151 would be deposited to the Low-Level Waste Account No. 88 upon passage of the bill, and the amount of fee revenues collected are expected to match the amount appropriated to the LLRWDCC, it is anticipated that the revenue gain to the Low-Level Waste Account No. 88 would be offset by the amount required to be transferred out of the account. Likewise, the revenue loss to the LLRWDCC Account No. 5151 would also be offset by the required transfer to that account. In addition, this estimate assumes that no unexpended and unencumbered balances would remain in the LLRWDCC Account No. 5151 at the end of any fiscal year. Thus, the overall fiscal impact of the bill is expected to be neutral.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: LBB Staff: UP, SZ, ZS, TL