LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 15, 2013

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

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB560 by Ellis (Relating to authorization for biweekly installment payments for the compensation of certain justices, judges, and district attorneys.), As Introduced

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Government Code to authorize the annual salaries of certain justices, judges, and district attorneys to be paid in equal biweekly installments instead of monthly installments if approved by a commissioners court. Under current statute, supplemental compensation paid by the counties to statutory court, courts of appeals and district court judges must be made on a monthly basis.

The bill would amend the Local Government Code to require the Commissioners Court of Harris County to pay the district attorney and the county judge in equal biweekly installments instead of monthly installments as required by current law.

According to the Comptroller of Public Accounts and the Office of Court Administration, no fiscal impact to the state judiciary is anticipated.

Local Government Impact

There could be costs to counties that would have to change certain accounting processes to accommodate the new payment option; however, the amounts would vary by county and are not anticipated to be significant.

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

LBB Staff: UP, CL, TP, JP