

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

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

**March 27, 2013**

**TO:** Honorable Rodney Ellis, Chair, Senate Committee on Open Government

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

**IN RE:** SB1297 by Watson ( Relating to written electronic communications between members of a governmental body.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

<b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b>
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The bill would amend the Government Code, Chapter 551 to permit a governmental body to create an online message board and clarifies that these message boards do not constitute a public meeting as long as they meet the criteria described by the bill.

Multiple agencies including the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), the Teacher Retirement System (TRS), the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) anticipate any additional work resulting from the passage of the bill could be reasonably absorbed within current resources.

**Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 302 Office of the Attorney General, 323 Teacher Retirement System, 580 Water Development Board, 601 Department of Transportation

**LBB Staff:** UP, JJO, KKR, JI, JW, TP