

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 19, 2015

TO: Honorable Abel Herrero, Chair, House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB282** by Dutton (Relating to the organization of a grand jury.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Code of Criminal Procedure to repeal the grand jury commissioners system where persons are appointed by a district court to serve as grand jury commissioners to summon persons considered for grand jury service, adds a question to the list of questions asked of prospective grand juror to determine their qualifications, clarifies the appointment of alternative jurors, and gives the court discretion for making a determining on what constitutes good cause for dismissing a juror.

Based on the analysis of the Office of Court Administration, duties and responsibilities associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be accomplished by utilizing existing resources.

Local Government Impact

According to the Texas Association of Counties, the Potter County District Clerk and the Moore County District Clerk reported the fiscal impact would not be significant. Additionally, the Tom Green District Clerk reported that the fiscal impact would be limited to additional appearance pay for jurors.

The Travis County District Clerk indicated the costs associated with the implementing the provisions of the bill could be reasonably absorbed within current resources.

According to the Real County and District Clerk, the bill would have a significant impact. The department anticipates an additional \$1,225 to implement the provisions of the bill per year. The department's current fiscal year budget is \$4,000.

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

LBB Staff: UP, GDz, KJo, MW, KVe