

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

**FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 24, 2015**

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

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

**IN RE: HB1293** by Alvarado (Relating to the confidentiality of identifying information of victims of stalking; creating a criminal offense.), **As Introduced**

<p><b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b></p>
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The bill would amend the Code of Criminal Procedure to require the Attorney General to develop and distribute a form to record certain information and a pseudonym of a victim who is subject of certain offenses. The victim would be required to complete the form and submit the form to the applicable law enforcement agency. Upon submission of the form, a law enforcement agency would be required to replace the victim's name with a pseudonym name in records and files. The law enforcement agency must also notify the prosecuting attorney. Under the provision of the bill, a court could order the disclosure of the victim's confidential information if the information is essential in the trial.

The bill would create a Class C misdemeanor if a public servant knowingly discloses confidential information about the victim to any person not assisting in the investigation or prosecution.

The Office of Court Administration reported no significant impact to the state court system is anticipated.

The Office of the Attorney General anticipates 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.

A Class C misdemeanor is punishable by a fine of not more than \$500. Costs associated with enforcement and prosecution could likely be absorbed within existing resources. Revenue gain from fines imposed and collected is not anticipated to have a significant fiscal impact. In addition to the fine, punishment can include up to 180 days of deferred disposition.

**Source Agencies:** 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 302 Office of the Attorney General, 405 Department of Public Safety, 407 Commission on Law Enforcement, 644 Juvenile Justice Department

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