

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 24, 2015

TO: Honorable John Kuempel, Chair, House Committee on General Investigating & Ethics

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB1531 by Geren (Relating to the making and receiving of referrals for legal services by certain legislators and executive officers; providing a criminal penalty.), **As Introduced**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Government Code to create a Class B misdemeanor for certain elected officials to make or receive referrals for legal services for compensation or any other benefit.

A Class B misdemeanor is punishable by a fine of not more than \$2,000, confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days, or both.

Local Government Impact

Costs associated with enforcement, prosecution and confinement could likely be absorbed within existing resources. Revenue gain from fines imposed and collected is not anticipated to have a significant fiscal implication

Source Agencies: 356 Texas Ethics Commission

LBB Staff: UP, FR, SD, EK