

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 13, 2015

TO: Honorable John T. Smithee, Chair, House Committee on Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB1774 by Lucio III (Relating to the jurisdiction and powers of and the referral of certain proceedings to a criminal law hearing officer in Cameron County.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Government Code to extend the jurisdiction of certain hearing officers to include extradition proceedings. The bill would expand the powers of certain hearing officers to accept a plea of nolo contendere or guilty, and appoint counsel for an indigent defendant. The bill would permit certain district or county court at law judges to refer criminal cases, as prescribed by the bill, to certain hearing officers.

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

Local Government Impact

Because the bill would not have statewide impact on units of local government of the same type or class, no comment from this office is required by the rules of the House/Senate as to its probable fiscal implication on units of local government.

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

LBB Staff: UP, FR, SD, EK