

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 24, 2015

TO: Honorable Joseph Pickett, Chair, House Committee on Transportation

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB3302** by Darby (Relating to highway landscaping projects.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

<p>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</p>
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The bill would amend the Transportation Code to require the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to establish guidelines for highway landscaping on state rights of way that require the use of native or regionally appropriate plants. The bill would require TxDOT to allocate funds to the applicable districts for landscaping improvements for each highway project involving the expenditure of \$5 million or more. The bill would allow TxDOT, before allocating money to a district, to consider financial assistance from a political subdivision or private organization for landscaping improvements. The bill would establish limits on the amount allocated for landscaping depending on the estimated total amount to be spent under a contract for construction, maintenance, or improvement of a highway.

Based on the information provided by TxDOT, it is assumed any costs or duties associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be absorbed within existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 601 Department of Transportation

LBB Staff: UP, AG, NV, TG