LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 28, 2015

TO: Honorable Dan Patrick, Lieutenant Governor, Senate

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB287 by West (Relating to the elimination of certain court fees and costs.), As Passed

2nd House

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would repeal four court fees and costs: 1) a \$7 court cost that can be assessed on each person convicted of a Class C misdemeanor in Harris County; 2) a \$10 fee to be assessed on certain civil suits involving railroad companies; 3) a \$2 fee for the hearing of an application to secure a (confederate soldier's) pension; and 4) a \$5 fee for each petition for review filed after an initial petition for review of an tax appraisal board order relating to certain regulated property.

The Comptroller of Public Accounts reports that because the four fees and court costs are rarely assessed, their repeal would have no significant fiscal impact on state and local revenues.

The bill would take immediate effect if the bill receives the votes of two-thirds of the members of each house. Otherwise, the bill would take effect September 1, 2015.

Local Government Impact

According to several local county clerk offices, provisions of the bill would not have a fiscal impact.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 304

Comptroller of Public Accounts

LBB Staff: UP, TB, FR, AG, MW, KVe