

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

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

**May 20, 2015**

**TO:** Honorable Dan Patrick, Lieutenant Governor, Senate

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

**IN RE:** SB1574 by Uresti (Relating to emergency response employees or volunteers and others exposed or potentially exposed to certain diseases or parasites.), **As Passed 2nd House**

<b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b>
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The bill would amend the Code of Criminal Procedures, the Government Code, and the Health and Safety Code relating to emergency response personnel's exposure or potential exposure to certain diseases or parasites, including post-exposure testing and related notifications of results. The bill would require that entities that employ or use the services of an emergency response employee or volunteer designate an infection control officer and alternate officer; qualifications and duties are specified in the bill. Under the provisions of the bill, for purposes of Chapters 101, 104, and 108 of the Civil Practice and Remedies Code, a facility designated as a treatment center for a declared infectious disease emergency would be considered a governmental unit, and its employees and contractors would be considered employees of a governmental unit.

The Office of Court Administration, the Texas Medical Board, and the Department of State Health Services indicate that implementation of the bill could be absorbed within current resources. The Health and Human Services Commission indicates a minimal cost related to enterprise support, but it is assumed that this cost can be absorbed within current resources.

**Local Government Impact**

The bill would require an entity that uses emergency response employees or volunteers to designate an infection control officer to comply with certain administrative and investigative duties. There may be an administrative cost to local governments entities to comply with the provisions of the bill; however, the fiscal impact would vary depending on the resources of the department.

**Source Agencies:** 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 503 Texas Medical Board, 529 Health and Human Services Commission, 537 State Health Services, Department of

**LBB Staff:** UP, NB, WP, VJC, SS, KVe