

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

**FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 27, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable Gary Elkins, Chair, House Committee on Government Transparency & Operation

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

**IN RE:** **HB563** by Israel (Relating to whom certain violations of the law by a state or local governmental entity may be reported.), **As Introduced**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would amend the Government Code by expanding the list of individuals to whom a public employee may report a violation of law by a state or local government entity while having the legal protection against retaliation from an employer.

According to the Texas Ethics Commission and the Texas Workforce Commission, the bill would have no fiscal impact. The Office of the Attorney General estimates there would be a minimal cost associated with implementing the provisions of the bill.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017.

**Local Government Impact**

According to the Texas Association of Counties, the fiscal impact may be significant but indeterminate due to the potential liability incurred by counties.

**Source Agencies:** 302 Office of the Attorney General, 320 Texas Workforce Commission,  
356 Texas Ethics Commission

**LBB Staff:** UP, LBO, NV, JSm, CP, JGA, GGo