

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

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

**March 27, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable Four Price, Chair, House Committee on Public Health

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

**IN RE:** **HB1977** by Sheffield (Relating to the definition of "non-physician mental health professional" for purposes of the Texas Mental Health Code.), **As Introduced**

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

The bill would amend Chapter 571 of the Health and Safety Code to add licensed physician assistants to the list of individuals classified as non-physician mental health professionals who can provide supplementary testimony during certain hearings relating to court-ordered mental health services, and of which a patient receiving inpatient mental health services is entitled to obtain an independent examination or evaluation. The bill would take effect September 1, 2017. The Health and Human Services Commission indicates that any costs associated with the bill could be absorbed within the agency's existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 529 Health and Human Services Commission, 537 State Health Services, Department of

**LBB Staff:** UP, KCA, EP, MDI