

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 27, 2017

TO: Honorable Joseph Pickett, Chair, House Committee on Environmental Regulation

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2321 by Turner (Relating to low-income vehicle repair assistance, retrofit, and accelerated vehicle retirement programs and local initiative projects.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend Texas Health and Safety Code, Ch. 382, regarding the administration of the Low-Income Vehicle Repair Assistance, Retrofit, and Accelerated Vehicle Retirement Programs (LIRAP) and the Local Initiatives Projects (LIP) by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The bill would change financial assistance amounts for the LIRAP vehicle repair and vehicle replacement assistance, and would remove TCEQ's authority to set a minimum amount for LIRAP vehicle repair assistance. The bill would allow participating counties to use up to 50% of the funds collected through vehicle emissions inspection and maintenance programs to fund county LIP programs; currently, LIRAP and LIP funding amounts are set by the General Appropriations Act. The bill would remove TCEQ oversight and prior review of LIP program eligibility and costs, would allow a county commissioner's court to approve LIPs without TCEQ consultation, and would remove the requirement that a county must provide a match for state funds received for LIPs.

TCEQ estimates that implementing the provisions of this bill can be implemented with existing resources.

Local Government Impact

The bill would allow counties to use up to 50% of the funds allocated for LIRAP programs to fund county LIP programs, and would remove the requirement that a county must provide a match to the state funding received for each LIP.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 405 Department of Public Safety, 582 Commission on Environmental Quality

LBB Staff: UP, SZ, MW, MSO