

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 19, 2017

TO: Honorable John T. Smithee, Chair, House Committee on Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB2783** by Smithee (Relating to the assessment of litigation costs and attorney fees in certain lawsuits under the public information law.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Government Code to require a court to award costs and attorney's fees to a plaintiff who substantially prevails or may assess costs of litigation and attorneys fees incurred by a plaintiff to whom the governmental body voluntarily releases the requested information after the suit is filed. Based on the analysis of the Office of Court Administration, duties and responsibilities associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be accomplished by utilizing existing resources.

Local Government Impact

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

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

LBB Staff: UP, LBO, GDz