

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

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

**April 3, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable Harold V. Dutton, Jr., Chair, House Committee on Juvenile Justice & Family Issues

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

**IN RE: HB2927** by Schofield (Relating to certain powers of an associate judge under the Family Code.), **As Introduced**

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

The bill would amend the Family Code to provide that an associate judge may sign a default, temporary, or final order without prejudicing the litigant's right to a de novo hearing. The bill would allow an associate judge to render a final order, including a waiver of the litigant's right to a de novo hearing, that would serve as the final order of the referring court. Based on the analysis of the Office of Court Administration and the Juvenile Justice Department, rights and responsibilities associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be accomplished with 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, 644 Juvenile Justice Department

**LBB Staff:** UP, FR, PBO, JPo, JGA