

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

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

**April 16, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable Jodie Laubenberg, Chair, House Committee on Elections

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

**IN RE: HB3840** by Laubenberg (Relating to the conduct of primary elections; increasing a criminal penalty.), **As Introduced**

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

The bill would amend the Election Code relating to the conduct of primary elections; increasing a criminal penalty.

The Secretary of State, Department of Criminal Justice, and the Office of Court Administration assume any additional work associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be absorbed using existing resources.

The bill would amend Section 162 of the Election Code to increase the punishment for unlawful participation in party affairs from a Class C Misdemeanor to a state jail felony or a second degree felony, depending upon the circumstances of the offense. This analysis assumes the provisions of the bill addressing felony sanctions for criminal offenses would not result in a significant impact on state correctional agencies.

The bill would take effect on September 1, 2017.

**Local Government Impact**

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

**Source Agencies:** 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 307 Secretary of State, 696 Department of Criminal Justice

**LBB Staff:** UP, LBO, NV, ASa, AG, BM, JPo