

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 23, 2017

TO: Honorable Kelly Hancock, Chair, Senate Committee on Business & Commerce

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB515 by Taylor, Van (Relating to the right of certain public officers to access public information, documents, records, and property; creating criminal offenses.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Government Code to define the right of access of board members to public information and access to any property owned or leased by or under exclusive control of the state governmental body to which the member is appointed. The bill would amend the Local Government code to define the rights of access to a member of the governing body of a political subdivision to public information and access to any property owned or leased by or under exclusive control of the state governmental body to which the member is appointed. The bill gives these members the ability to seek a decision regarding confidentiality issues with the Office of the Attorney General. This analysis assumes costs associated with implementing the bill could be absorbed by the Office of the Attorney General.

The bill would take effect immediately upon receiving a two-thirds majority vote in each house. Otherwise, the bill would take effect September 1, 2018.

Local Government Impact

According to the Texas Association of Counties, the potential liability that may incur on counties cannot be determined.

Source Agencies: 302 Office of the Attorney General

LBB Staff: UP, JSm, CL, NV, JGA