

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 86TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 6, 2019

TO: Honorable Jeff Leach, Chair, House Committee on Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence

FROM: John McGeady, Assistant Director Sarah Keyton, Assistant Director
Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB1380** by Murr (Relating to the jurisdiction of certain courts and fees collected by a justice court; increasing a fee.), **As Introduced**

| |
|--|
| <p>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</p> |
|--|

The bill would amend the Government Code to expand the justification of constitutional county courts and justice courts by raising the jurisdictional cap in civil cases. The bill would amend the Local Government Code to increase the filing fee for cases filed in justice courts and eliminate references to small claims courts.

Based on the analysis of the Office of Court Administration (OCA), duties and responsibilities associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be accomplished using existing resources.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019.

Local Government Impact

According to the OCA, although the bill would expand civil jurisdiction, it does not create any new causes of action or impose new obligations on the courts and any increase in workload associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be handled using existing resources. OCA anticipates the fee increase will double the revenue from justice court filing fees to the justice courts and counties; however, due to volume differences, this impact will vary from county to county.

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

LBB Staff: WP, SLE, DA