

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 86TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 26, 2019

TO: Honorable Garnet Coleman, Chair, House Committee on County Affairs

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

IN RE: HB2580 by Wu (Relating to providing free access to telephone services for persons confined in county jail pending trial.), **As Introduced**

No fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend the Local Government Code to require individuals confined in a county jail awaiting trial be provided free access to domestic telephone services. The bill authorizes the sheriff of each county jail to adopt a policy governing this use of telephone services, subject to certain restrictions.

According to the Commission on Jail Standards, no fiscal implication to the state is anticipated.

Local Government Impact

According to Harris County, the cost of the bill is estimated to be between \$4 million to \$6.5 million per year.

According to Galveston County, revenue in fiscal year 2018 from inmate telephone calls was \$611,298, which was a significant source of revenue for the county jail.

According to Grayson County, the county jail would lose \$75,000 in revenue per fiscal year.

Source Agencies: 409 Commission on Jail Standards

LBB Staff: WP, AF, SD, GP