

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

**FISCAL NOTE, 86TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**April 17, 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: HB3294** by Raymond (Relating to reimbursing a commissioners court for the reasonable cost of transporting a body for the purpose of an autopsy.), **As Introduced**

**Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds** for HB3294, As Introduced: an impact of \$0 through the biennium ending August 31, 2021.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

**General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds</b>
2020	\$0
2021	\$0
2022	\$0
2023	\$0
2024	\$0

**All Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Probable Savings/(Cost) from Crime Victims Comp Acct 469</b>
2020	(\$1,252,193)
2021	(\$1,252,193)
2022	(\$1,252,193)
2023	(\$1,252,193)
2024	(\$1,252,193)

**Fiscal Analysis**

The bill would amend the Code of Criminal Procedure relating to reimbursements for the transportation of a body for the purpose of conducting an autopsy if the cause of death was determined to be by unlawful means. The bill takes effect September 1, 2019.

## **Methodology**

Based on analysis by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), the requirement to process reimbursements for transportation of bodies to or from a location to conduct autopsies would result in approximately 1,600 additional grant requests based on the average murder rate in the State of Texas for 2018. Additional grant awards, estimated to average \$770 per award, would be funded out of General Revenue-Dedicated Fund 0469, Compensation to Victims of Crime. Based on this analysis, the provisions of the bill would have a fiscal impact to the state of approximately \$1.3 million per fiscal year in General Revenue-Dedicated Fund 0469.

While the processing of these new grant award requests may require additional staff resources, it is assumed that these costs could be absorbed within existing agency resources.

## **Technology**

The provisions of the bill regarding autopsy transportation reimbursements would require modification of the Crime Victim Management System. It is assumed that any costs to make such modifications could be absorbed within existing resources.

## **Local Government Impact**

The bill authorizes a grant which would allow a commissioners court to defray certain autopsy-related costs. No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 302 Office of the Attorney General

**LBB Staff:** WP, AF, NV, JMO, GP