

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

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

**April 14, 2019**

**TO:** Honorable Nicole Collier, Chair, House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence

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

**IN RE: HB3539** by Rose (Relating to the appointment of a local public defender's office to represent indigent defendants in criminal cases.), **As Introduced**

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

The bill would amend the Code of Criminal Procedure to require judges in a county with a public defender's office to prioritize appointments to that office unless certain exceptions are met.

According to the Office of Court Administration (OCA), no significant fiscal impact to the state court system is anticipated.

**Local Government Impact**

According to OCA, although there may be a small increase in the number of appointments to public defender's offices instead of to private attorneys, no significant fiscal impact to local courts is anticipated.

According to the Texas Association of Counties, no significant fiscal impact to counties is anticipated.

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

**LBB Staff:** WP, LBO, SD, GP