

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

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

**April 8, 2019**

**TO:** Honorable Lyle Larson, Chair, House Committee on Natural Resources

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

**IN RE: HB4246** by Nevárez (Relating to nonsubmetered billing for water or wastewater service.),  
**As Introduced**

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| <p><b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b></p> |
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The bill would amend the Water Code to set forth requirements governing non-submetered master metered utility service billing by municipally owned utilities. The bill provides that a municipally owned utility may not charge a dwelling unit base charge of more than \$5 for nonsubmetered master metered utility service.

According to the Public Utility Commission (PUC), the bill would have no significant fiscal impact and the provisions of the bill could be implemented using existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

According to PUC, the bill may have a local impact as it affects municipally owned utilities; however, the agency cannot determine any impact at this time.

According to the Texas Municipal League, there would be a fiscal impact for any municipally owned utility system that charges more than \$5 for nonsubmetered master metered utility service. The impact cannot be determined at this time because it would depend on the rate charged by the city and number of customers that would be affected. Provisions of the bill that provide an appeal to PUC could also result in cities incurring costs in regard to those appeals.

**Source Agencies:** 473 Public Utility Commission of Texas

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