

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 86TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 6, 2019

TO: Honorable Joan Huffman, Chair, Senate Committee on State Affairs

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

IN RE: **SB71** by Nelson (relating to the establishment of a statewide telehealth center for sexual assault forensic medical examination.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for SB71, Committee Report 1st House, Substituted: a negative impact of (\$1,000,000) 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:

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2020	(\$500,000)
2021	(\$500,000)
2022	(\$500,000)
2023	(\$500,000)
2024	(\$500,000)

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Savings/(Cost) from General Revenue Fund 1
2020	(\$500,000)
2021	(\$500,000)
2022	(\$500,000)
2023	(\$500,000)
2024	(\$500,000)

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would amend the Government Code to establish a new Statewide Telehealth Center for Sexual Assault Forensic Medical Examination within the Office of the Attorney General. Among

other responsibilities, the center is authorized to facilitate sexual assault examiner trainings and to provide consultations to sexual assault examiners either in person or via telecommunications.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019.

Methodology

The provisions of the bill authorize the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), in consultation with medical and forensic examination experts, a statewide sexual assault coalition, and a statewide organization with expertise in the operation of children's advocacy programs, to enter into contracts to implement the Statewide Telehealth Center for Sexual Assault Forensic Medical Examination. According to information provided by the OAG, cost estimates for contracting with a qualified medical provider would be \$500,000 per fiscal year based on comparable federal grant programs in other states.

Local Government Impact

The fiscal implications of the bill on local units of government cannot be determined at this time.

Source Agencies:

LBB Staff: WP, CMa, JMO