

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

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

**May 6, 2019**

**TO:** Honorable Jeff Leach, Chair, House Committee on Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence

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

**IN RE:** **SB1293** by Zaffirini (relating to the authority of certain courts to employ attorneys as mental health public defenders and to the reimbursement of an attorney who represents an indigent proposed patient in certain mental health proceedings.), **Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted**

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

The bill would amend the Health and Safety Code to authorize certain courts with primary responsibility for mental illness proceedings to employ attorneys as mental health public defenders and to authorize reimbursement for attorneys representing the proposed patient. The bill would require these counties to supply representation for proposed patients.

**Local Government Impact**

According to the Texas Association of Counties, the bill would not have a significant impact on counties.

**Source Agencies:**

**LBB Staff:** WP, SLE, CMa, SD, GP