

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

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

**May 25, 2019**

**TO:** Honorable Dan Patrick, Lieutenant Governor, Senate  
Honorable Dennis Bonnen, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

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

**IN RE:** **SB2342** by Creighton (Relating to the jurisdiction of, and practices and procedures in civil cases before, justice courts, county courts, statutory county courts, and district courts.), **Conference Committee Report**

<p><b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b></p>
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The bill would amend the Government Code to require the Supreme Court to amend the expedited actions rules to include civil actions that do not exceed \$250,000 and to remove the requirement that the amount include all damage claims, penalties, attorney's fees, expenses, costs, interest, and other damages. The bill would require a 12-member jury in civil cases exceeding \$250,000 in controversy and family law cases in certain jurisdictions.

Based on the analysis of the Office of Court Administration, duties and responsibilities associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be accomplished using existing resources.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019.

**Local Government Impact**

According to the Office of Court Administration, increasing the number of cases that require a 12-member jury may increase juror compensation costs, but it is not anticipated that a significant number of new cases would be tried before larger juries. No significant fiscal impact to local courts is anticipated.

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

**LBB Staff:** WP, SLE, MW, CMa, DA