

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATURE 3rd CALLED SESSION 2021

October 14, 2021

TO: Honorable Bryan Hughes, Chair, Senate Committee on State Affairs

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB51 by Hughes (Relating to prohibited COVID-19 vaccine mandates and vaccination status discrimination and to exemptions from certain vaccine requirements.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would prohibit a governmental entity in this state from requiring an individual to provide any documentation certifying the individual's COVID-19 vaccination status or post-transmission recovery on entry to, to gain access to, or to receive services from the governmental entity.

The bill would prohibit a political subdivision from requiring an individual to be vaccinated against COVID-19. The bill would prohibit an elementary or secondary school from requiring a student be vaccinated against COVID-19. The bill would prohibit a public, private, or independent institution of higher education from requiring a student be vaccinated against COVID-19.

The bill would require any law, policy, or other measure requiring an individual to be vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to enter, gain access to, receive a service from, or be employed by an establishment to allow the individual to claim an exemption from the vaccination requirement for certain listed reasons.

The bill would require health care facilities to adopt policy that provides for employees, providers, and caregivers to be exempt from all vaccine requirements for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief.

It is assumed that implementing the provisions of the bill could be accomplished within existing resources. However, if federal rules are established requiring employees of Medicare and Medicaid providers to be vaccinated against COVID-19, complying with the provisions of the bill could impact federal reimbursements for state entities that are Medicare and Medicaid providers.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated. However, if federal rules are established requiring employees of Medicare and Medicaid providers to be vaccinated against COVID-19, complying with the provisions of the bill could impact federal reimbursements for local entities that are Medicare and Medicaid providers.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Admin, 320 Texas Workforce Commission, 529 Hlth & Human Svcs Comm, 701 Texas Education Agency, 710 Texas A&M Univ System Admin, 720 UT Sys Admin, 731 Texas Woman's University

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