

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 21, 2021

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

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB525 by Shaheen (Relating to the protection of religious organizations.), **As Engrossed**

<p>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</p>
--

The bill would amend the Government Code by adding Chapter 2401, relating to the protection of religious organizations. The bill would prohibit a governmental entity from prohibiting a religious organization from engaging in religious and other related activities at any time, including during a declared state of disaster. The bill would waive governmental and sovereign immunity. The bill would authorize the attorney general to bring an action for injunctive or declaratory relief against a governmental entity or an office or employee of a governmental entity to enforce compliance.

It is assumed that the costs associated with the bill's provisions could be absorbed using existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Admin, 300 Trusteed Programs - Gov, 302 Office of the Attorney General, 537 State Health Services

LBB Staff: JMc, SMAT, SD, BRI, AF