

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**

**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**April 19, 2021**

**TO:** Honorable Todd Hunter, Chair, House Committee on Redistricting

**FROM:** Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB3094** by Goodwin (Relating to the Texas Redistricting Commission.), **As Introduced**

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

The bill would set forth provisions regarding the Texas Redistricting Commission, including the selection of commission members, organization of the commission, the commission's powers and duties, and administrative resources for the commission. The State Auditor (SAO) would initiate the application process for selecting commission members by January 1 of each census year, and the Secretary of State (SOS) would be responsible for providing administrative support to the commission in each census year until the commission's staff and office are fully functional. The commission would be permitted to hire employees, legal counsel, and consultants, as needed.

The bill would take effect January 1, 2030, if the constitutional amendment establishing the commission is approved by voters.

Currently, Texas Legislative Council (TLC) dedicates 17 FTEs to redistricting with an annual cost of approximately \$2,000,000 for salaries, benefits, and operating costs. If TLC would be precluded by Section 581.153(e) of the bill from participating in the redistricting process and this function is transferred from TLC to the commission, the cost may be offset by a savings at TLC. If the cost is not offset by savings at TLC, there may be new indeterminate initial start-up and annual costs.

It is assumed that the additional responsibilities for the SAO and SOS resulting from the passage of the bill could be reasonably absorbed within existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

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

**Source Agencies:** 103 Legislative Council, 300 Trusteed Programs - Gov, 302 Office of the Attorney General, 307 Secretary of State, 308 State Auditor's Office

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