

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 23, 2021

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

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3503 by Lambert (Relating to the representation of parties in justice court cases and to the correction or removal of certain obsolete provisions of the Property Code.), **As Introduced**

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| No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated. |
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The bill would amend the Property Code to provide that a party in a justice court case is not required to be represented by an attorney. Under the bill's provisions, a party who is an individual may be represented by the individual's self, an attorney, or an authorized agent who is not an attorney and a corporation or other entity could be represented by certain non-attorney persons, an attorney, or an authorized agency who is not an attorney. The bill would allow a court, for good cause, to allow an individual who is representing the individual's self to be assisted in court by a family member or other individual who is not being compensated.

Based on information provided by the Office of Court Administration, no significant fiscal impact to the state court system is anticipated as a result from implementing the provisions of the bill.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Admin

LBB Staff: JMc, SLE, BH