

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

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

**April 28, 2021**

**TO:** Honorable Craig Goldman, Chair, House Committee on Energy Resources

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

**IN RE: HB3576** by Guerra (Relating to the authority of the Railroad Commission of Texas to study geothermal energy and associated resources.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

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| <b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b> |
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The bill would amend the Natural Resources Code to allow the Railroad Commission (RRC) to conduct a study on the potential of geothermal energy and associated resources in Texas. RRC may enter into a partnership with the University of Texas at Austin's Bureau of Economic Geology and the Southern Methodist University Geothermal Lab.

The bill would also allow RRC to accept and expend Federal Funds for the purposes of the study.

Based on information provided by the RRC, University of Texas System Administration, and the Comptroller of Public Accounts, it is assumed that duties and responsibilities associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could be accomplished utilizing existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

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

**Source Agencies:** 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 455 Railroad Commission, 720 UT Sys Admin

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