

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 88TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 12, 2023

TO: Honorable Harold V. Dutton, Jr., Chair, House Committee on Juvenile Justice & Family Issues

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB1734 by Leach (Relating to the establishment of parentage and the duty to pay child support.), **As Introduced**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB1734, As Introduced : a negative impact of (\$1,305,090) through the biennium ending August 31, 2025.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five- Year Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds</i>
2024	(\$1,305,090)
2025	\$0
2026	\$0
2027	\$0
2028	\$0

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Probable Savings/(Cost) from General Revenue Fund 1</i>	<i>Probable Savings/(Cost) from Federal Funds 555</i>
2024	(\$1,305,090)	(\$2,533,410)
2025	\$0	\$0
2026	\$0	\$0
2027	\$0	\$0
2028	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would amend the Family Code to require that a court in an order to establish parentage or a suit to establish child support obligation to order the man to pay retroactive child support for the child beginning on the earliest possible date of the child's conception, as determined by a physician. The bill would require the guidelines to be applied by the court in making this determination and the court upon proper showing to order the man to pay an equitable portion of all of the prenatal and postnatal health care expenses of the mother and the child. The bill would also lists requirements for an order adjudicating parenthood in the event the order is rendered before child's birth.

Methodology

The table above reflects a one-time programming cost of \$3,838,500 in fiscal year 2024 for the Office of the Attorney General's (OAG) TXCSES system. This would include General Revenue totaling \$1,305,090 and Federal Funds totaling \$2,533,410.

According to information provided by the OAG, programming costs would be necessary to provide: (1) New Obligation Type and Associated Order Entry/Financial Functionality for Mandatory Conception Retro; (2) New Retro obligation must accrue 0% interest until 1 year anniversary of order being rendered and; (3) New data field for the date that will trigger the 1-year anniversary and new interest calculation functionality. The OAG anticipates a minimum of nine months to one year to implement all changes from the bill into the current mainframe system, TXCSES.

Technology

One-time programming costs totaling \$1,305,090 in General Revenue and \$2,533,410 in Federal Funds for the TXCSES would be necessary to implement 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 Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 302 Office of the Attorney General

LBB Staff: JMc, MW, JPa, CMA