

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 24, 2025

TO: Honorable Drew Darby, Chair, House Committee on Energy Resources

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB48 by Darby (Relating to the creation of an organized oilfield theft prevention unit within the Department of Public Safety.), **As Introduced**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB48, As Introduced: a negative impact of (\$7,695,359) through the biennium ending August 31, 2027.

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>	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to <i>General Revenue Related Funds</i>
2026	(\$4,908,342)
2027	(\$2,787,017)
2028	(\$2,787,017)
2029	(\$2,787,017)
2030	(\$2,787,017)

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	Probable Savings/(Cost) from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1	<i>Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2025</i>
2026	(\$4,908,342)	15.0
2027	(\$2,787,017)	15.0
2028	(\$2,787,017)	15.0
2029	(\$2,787,017)	15.0
2030	(\$2,787,017)	15.0

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would direct the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to establish an organized oilfield theft prevention unit. The bill would also direct DPS to develop training and resources for local law enforcement and submit a biennial report related to organized oilfield theft.

Methodology

According to DPS, the duties and responsibilities associated with implementing the provisions of the bill could not be absorbed within existing resources. DPS states that 8.0 special agents and 1.0 lieutenant would be

needed to comply with the provisions of the bill. Additionally, DPS also states that the agency would need an additional 6.0 full-time equivalent positions to support the unit, including 1.0 Administrative Assistant III, 1.0 Criminal Intelligence Analyst III, 1.0 Forensic Scientist IV, 1.0 Police Communications Operator IV, and 2.0 Program Specialist V. The fiscal impact would be \$4,908,342 in fiscal year 2026 and \$2,787,017 in fiscal year 2027, including salary, benefits, and other operating expenses.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 405 Department of Public Safety, 455 Railroad Commission

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