

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD  
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 19, 2025

**TO:** Honorable John T. Smithee, Chair, House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence

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

**IN RE: HB355** by Craddick (Relating to the period within which the Texas Juvenile Justice Department must accept custody of a person committed to the department and to the consequences for the failure of the department to accept custody of the person within that period.), **As Introduced**

**Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds** for HB355, As Introduced: a negative impact of (\$31,485,406) 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	(\$15,742,703)
2027	(\$15,742,703)
2028	(\$15,742,703)
2029	(\$15,742,703)
2030	(\$15,742,703)

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	Probable (Cost) from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1
2026	(\$15,742,703)
2027	(\$15,742,703)
2028	(\$15,742,703)
2029	(\$15,742,703)
2030	(\$15,742,703)

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would require the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) to take custody of a youth not later than thirty days after disposition. If TJJD is unable to take custody within thirty days, the bill would require TJJD to reimburse counties at an amount equal to the amount that would have been incurred by the department to detain that youth for that period.

**Methodology**

This analysis is based on data provided by TJJD and assumes the average number of youth and the average number of days youth spend in a local detention facility awaiting transfer to TJJD remains constant.

The average number of youth on the waitlist is approximately 108, with an average wait time of 61.7 days after a judge orders their commitment to TJJD before they are accepted into state custody. This means that approximately half of all youth awaiting transfer to TJJD at any given time have been held beyond thirty days after disposition, making the county's expenses related to their detention eligible for reimbursement by TJJD. According to the Legislative Budget Board's Uniform Cost Report the cost per day to detain a youth in a state facility in fiscal year 2024 was \$770.53.

**Local Government Impact**

The fiscal impact to local governments cannot be determined. Local Juvenile Probation Departments may see a positive fiscal impact as a result of reimbursement from TJJD if the rate received is higher than the local JPD's cost per day, but the extent of that impact cannot be determined.

**Source Agencies:** 644 Juvenile Justice Department

**LBB Staff:** JMc, MGol, CSh, AF