

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 15, 2025

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

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB4088 by Bonnen (Relating to the qualifications for jury service and the establishment of a juror mental health services reimbursement program.), **As Introduced**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB4088, As Introduced: a negative impact of (\$2,190,722) 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	(\$1,104,777)
2027	(\$1,085,945)
2028	(\$1,086,385)
2029	(\$1,086,751)
2030	(\$1,087,125)

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	(\$1,104,777)	2.0
2027	(\$1,085,945)	2.0
2028	(\$1,086,385)	2.0
2029	(\$1,086,751)	2.0
2030	(\$1,087,125)	2.0

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would require a court presiding over trials involving defendants charged with certain offenses to advise each person selected to serve as a juror or alternate juror about the availability of the juror mental health services reimbursement program and provide the person with a certificate of attendance at the completion of the trial. The bill would establish the juror mental health services reimbursement program at the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to reimburse a person's cost of obtaining mental health services related to the person's service as a juror or alternate juror in certain criminal trials at an amount of \$150 per reimbursement. The bill would require these actions to the extent funds are appropriated to HHSC for the juror mental health services reimbursement program.

Methodology

Based on the Annual Statistical Report for the Texas Judiciary for fiscal year 2023 and information from HHSC, this analysis assumes as many as 5,075 jurors would seek \$150 in reimbursement for mental health services related to serving as juror or alternate juror on certain cases. Analysis assumes the grant program would cost \$761,250 in General Revenue per fiscal year. The actual cost of the grant program could vary depending on how many jurors seek reimbursement and based on the extent funds are appropriated to HHSC for this purpose.

Based on information provided by HHSC, this analysis assumes HHSC would require an additional 2.0 full-time-equivalents (FTEs) to implement the provisions of the bill, including 2.0 Program Specialist VII to provide financial analysis and oversight. Total personnel-related costs, including salaries, are estimated to total \$343,527 in General Revenue in fiscal year 2026 and \$324,695 in General Revenue in fiscal year 2027.

It is assumed that the state court system could absorb the costs related to implementing the bill within current resources.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 529 Health and Human Services Commission

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