

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 78TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 31, 2003

TO: Honorable Kenneth Armbrister, Chair, Senate Committee on Natural Resources

FROM: John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB1265 by Armbrister (Relating to initiating the prosecution of environmental crimes.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend sections of the Water Code by requiring the Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to consult with the attorney general concerning possible criminal prosecution of any alleged criminal violation under the Water Code, Health and Safety Code or other statute or permit that is within the commission's jurisdiction. The bill would require the Attorney General to evaluate the alleged violation. The bill would provide that the attorney general may notify prosecutors in the county in which the alleged violation occurred and recommend prosecution and offer assistance in prosecuting the case.

The Commission on Environmental Quality and the Office of the Attorney General expect no significant additional costs as a result of the bill's passage.

Local Government Impact

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

Source Agencies: 302 Office of the Attorney General, 582 Commission on Environmental Quality

LBB Staff: JK, CL, TL