

## Introduction

The Office of Budget Management has completed an analysis of bills enacted by the 80<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature that may have a fiscal or operational impact for Harris County. Various county departments provided the information used to estimate each bill's impact. The analysis provides a description of these bills and an estimate of their potential impact for the county.

The OBM analysis includes:

- **Bills of Interest.** Includes bills judged by OBM to have a significant fiscal or operational impact, bills that signal a shift in legislative policy on a particular issue, bills that impose a significant unfunded mandate on the county, and bills that are of general interest.
- **All Bills Analyzed.** Every bill (including Bills of Interest) identified by OBM as having a fiscal or operational impact for Harris County.
- **Bills by Category.** Organizes the bills by policy categories, enabling the reader to know which topics are addressed by the bills.
- **Bills by Department.** Organizes the bills by the departments they affect.

Please note the following:

- The Legislature enacted over 1,400 bills in this session. Of these, 194 were identified as having a possible impact for Harris County, and 68 of those are designated as "Bills of Interest".
- The fiscal impact of 19 bills, including 14 Bills of Interest, could not be quantified due to various unknowns. In this case, we have described the bill and attempted to identify the factors that will influence its ultimate impact.
- With certain other bills, the fiscal impact has been estimated within a range. In this case, the Impact section of the bill analysis includes the worst case scenario (i.e., the high point of the range). This impact is described in the text of the bill analysis.

At the bottom of each individual bill analysis is the name of the OBM analyst who wrote the analysis. Questions about a particular bill should be directed to the relevant analyst. Questions of a general nature or suggestions for improvement may be directed to Brian Schmitz, the report coordinator.

Amir Rashid	713-755-6747
Clarissa Stephens	713-755-3307
Karen Hebron	713-755-4197
Brian Schmitz	713-755-3449
Kevin Seat	713-755-3306
Doug Wright	713-755-5502