



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR

Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 1252** HLS 26RS 3326
 Bill Text Version: **ENROLLED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.: **HB 1165**

Date: June 2, 2026 3:12 PM **Author:** DESHOTEL
Dept./Agy.: City Court of Bunkie and City Court of Marksville **Analyst:** Jamie Mergist
Subject: Territorial Jurisdiction and Court Costs/Fees

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 Provides relative to the city court system in Avoyelles Parish

Purpose of Bill: This bill expands the territorial jurisdictions of the Bunkie and Marksville City Courts, establishes small claims divisions for both courts, and grants them concurrent jurisdiction with the 12th Judicial District Court (JDC) over misdemeanors, juvenile matters, and civil disputes under \$50,000. The bill also directs the justice of the peace and constable courts in wards 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 to work in conjunction with the City Court of Marksville. Additionally, the bill authorizes the City Court of Marksville to study or implement online payment and virtual court services. It further increases the maximum allowable court costs in civil and criminal matters for the City Court of Marksville. Lastly, it provides for applicability and effective dates.

The provisions of this bill could potentially impact the following entities: (1) Bunkie and Marksville City Courts and City Marshals; (2) Avoyelles Parish justice of the peace courts and constables; (3) 12th JDC and the Avoyelles Parish Sheriff; (4) Avoyelles Parish Clerk of Court; (5) Cities of Bunkie and Marksville; and (6) Louisiana Secretary of State.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$22,766	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$22,766
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	

Annual Total

REVENUES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	

Annual Total

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The bill may shift expenditures between local court entities (City Courts, JPs, JDC, Parish Clerk), but any impacts depend on possible caseload shifts and resulting work demands. This bill extends the territorial jurisdictions of the City Courts. Some entities may experience increased expenditures (City Courts) while others may experience decreased expenditures (JDC, Parish Clerk, JPs) due to a shift in caseloads. The exact impact, if any, is dependent on the volume and timing of these shifted cases.

The bill may shift expenditures between local entities that provide support to the court system (Marshals, Constables, Sheriff, municipalities), but any impacts depend on possible caseload shifts and resulting work demands. Similar to the court entities, some local entities that provide support to the courts may experience increased expenditures (City Marshals, municipalities) while others may experience decreased expenditures (Sheriff, Constables) due to a shift in caseloads. The exact impact, if any, is dependent on the volume and timing of these shifted cases.

The bill may increase state general fund expenditures of the Louisiana Secretary of State's Office by approximately \$22,766 in FY 2026-2027. An official with the Louisiana Secretary of State's office indicated that voter notification cards would need to be printed and mailed to an estimated 22,996 registered voters in Avoyelles Parish at a cost of \$0.99 per card. Therefore, this bill may increase state general fund expenditures of the Louisiana Secretary of State's office by \$22,766 (22,996 x \$0.99 per notification) in FY 2026-27.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

The bill may shift revenue between parish entities and city entities, but any impacts depend on possible caseload shifts and differences in court costs/fee structures between these entities. Activities and associated revenues (e.g. civil fees) may increase for some entities (City Courts and City Marshals) while decreasing for other entities (JDC, Parish Clerk, Sheriff, JPs, and Constables) due to a shift in caseloads. Specific dollar impacts could not be estimated as the volume and timing of these shifted cases is unknown.

The bill may increase local fund revenues for the City Court of Marksville as the bill increases the maximum additional court costs that may be assessed in both criminal and civil matters. Additional revenue is possible, but the exact impact will depend on the actual volume of cases and the actual fees assessed.

The bill may increase local fund revenues for the City Court of Marksville by authorizing the city judge to seek grant funding for implementing an online fine payment system and virtual court appearances. The exact revenue impact will depend on whether such systems are implemented and grant funding is actually pursued and awarded.

Senate
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

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