



**OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR  
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **HB 120** HLS 17RS 413  
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> May 12, 2017	12:09 PM	<b>Author:</b> JACKSON
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Sheriffs		<b>Analyst:</b> Barbara Lively
<b>Subject:</b> Increase in fees for certain civil matters		

SHERIFFS EG INCREASE LF RV See Note Page 1 of 1  
 Provides for fees in civil matters

**Purpose of the bill:** This bill increases the amount sheriffs can assess for certain civil matters from \$20 to \$30 including: service and returns of legal documents, notices, and subpoenas; notice of seizure and sale returns; return of any writs; execution of writ of possessions or ejectment; service of notice to vacate; and other actions. Preparation of advertisements in newspapers will increase from \$15 to \$30.

The Amended bill provides that in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 13:62, the increase in court costs or fees as provided for in this Act shall become effective if and when the Judicial Council provides a recommendation that such court costs or fees meet the applicable guidelines in its 2018 Report to the Louisiana Legislature.

EXPENDITURES	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>2021-22</u>	<u>5 -YEAR TOTAL</u>
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	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

  

REVENUES	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>2021-22</u>	<u>5 -YEAR TOTAL</u>
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	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
<b>Annual Total</b>						

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

**There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental expenditures as a result of this measure.**

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

**There may be an increase on local governmental revenues as a result of this measure.**

The number of civil matters handled by sheriffs varies from parish to parish and there is no one source that could give estimated figures as to how many civil matters of this nature are handled by sheriffs throughout the state. Therefore, we contacted the West Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office to obtain an estimate of the increase when applying the fee increases to amounts collected in the prior year.

According to an official with the West Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office, civil fees in the prior year were \$39,825. The resulting revenue increase is estimated to be \$13,938 (based on a 35% increase in fees).

If all 64 parishes realized a similar increase, there could be a statewide increase in local fund revenues of \$896,000 (\$14,000 X 64 parishes). However, as stated above, the amount of individual civil matters handled by individual sheriffs varies from parish to parish.

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}

*Michael G. Battle*  
**Michael G. Battle**  
**Manager, Advisory Services**