



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: SB 370 SLS 20RS 399
Bill Text Version: ORIGINAL
Opp. Chamb. Action:
Proposed Amd.:
Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 20, 2020 1:30 PM Author: CARTER, TROY
Dept./Agy.: Local Governmental Entities Analyst: Steven Kraemer
Subject: Firefighters' Loss of Hearing

WORKERS' COMPENSATION OR INCREASE LF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
Provides relative to workers' compensation benefits for hearing loss for classified fire service. (gov sig)

Purpose of Bill: This bill provides for indemnity payments for classified fire service employees in the State that suffer loss of hearing above a certain threshold (10% greater than that of the affected employee's comparable age group in the general population) during their employment. Such payments shall not exceed 66.67% of wages for a period not to exceed 100 weeks, and is currently capped at \$688 per week by the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

Table with 7 columns: EXPENDITURES, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25, 5-YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total. Similar structure for REVENUES.

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Local government expenditures may increase as a result of this measure by an indeterminable amount. This measure is not expected to directly impact state general fund expenditures. The exact impact on local government entities is indeterminable as we were unable to identify the proper classification (i.e. self-insured or insured) of all the local government entities that could be affected by this bill.

In order to give examples of potential impacts to specific local governments, we contacted the cities of Baton Rouge and New Orleans and discussed this bill with officials from the Professional Fire Fighters Association of Louisiana and the Louisiana Municipal Association. The official with the City of Baton Rouge indicated that this bill would increase the City's cost by an indeterminable amount to pay for additional claims.

Based on Information from the Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal, Louisiana Division of Administration, and the Louisiana Workforce Commission, it appears this bill will not directly impact state expenditures as the bill changes eligibility for workers' compensation only for fire service employees employed by certain municipalities, parishes, and fire protection districts.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

Senate Dual Referral Rules
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}

Signature of Michael G. Battle
Michael G. Battle
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