



**OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **SB 401** SLS 22RS 579
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 13, 2022 2:18 PM **Author:** MCMATH
Dept./Agy.: St. Tammany and Washington Parish Governing Authorities
Subject: Fees for Judicial System **Analyst:** Jodie Debetaz

CLERKS OF COURT EG +\$670,000 LF RV See Note Page 1 of 1
 Authorizes governing authorities to adopt ordinances to increase certain fees in the parishes of St. Tammany and Washington. (8/1/22)

Purpose of Bill: This bill increases fees for registration and recordation of mortgage and conveyance records from \$5 to \$15 in clerks of court offices in St. Tammany and Washington parishes, and increases the charge for filing and recordation of adoptions, successions, and other new civil suits or written requests for hearings from \$15 to \$25. The bill also increases fees assessed for each tax certificate issued or filed by the sheriff's offices of St. Tammany and Washington parishes from \$15 to \$25.

This increase shall become effective if and when the Judicial Council provides a favorable recommendation in the Judicial Council 2023 Report to the Louisiana Legislature.

EXPENDITURES	<u>2022-23</u>	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</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>
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

REVENUES	<u>2022-23</u>	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</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	SEE BELOW	<u>\$670,000</u>	<u>\$670,000</u>	<u>\$670,000</u>	<u>\$670,000</u>	<u>\$2,680,000</u>
Annual Total		\$670,000	\$670,000	\$670,000	\$670,000	\$2,680,000

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

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

REVENUE EXPLANATION

This bill may increase local government revenues by up to approximately \$670,000 per year (\$614,000 for St. Tammany Parish and \$56,000 for Washington Parish) starting in Fiscal Year 2023-24 (due to the timing of the Judicial Council's approval in the 2023 Report to the Legislature).

This bill authorizes a \$10 fee increase for registration and recordation of mortgages in St. Tammany and Washington parishes. Based on information from the St. Tammany and Washington Parish clerks of courts, it appears that this fee increase may increase annual local government revenue by \$500,000 and \$43,000, respectively.

This bill also authorizes a \$10 fee increase for filing and recordation of adoptions, successions, and other new civil suits and written motions for hearings in St. Tammany and Washington parishes. Based on information from the St. Tammany and Washington Parish clerks of courts, it appears that this fee increase may increase annual local government revenue by \$100,000 and \$12,580, respectively.

This bill also authorizes a \$10 fee increase for tax certificates issued or filed by the sheriffs in St. Tammany and Washington parishes. This fee increase may increase local government revenue as follows:

- (1) Based on information from the Washington Parish Sheriff's Office, it appears that this fee increase may increase annual local government revenue for Washington Parish by approximately \$240.
- (2) Based on information from the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office, it appears that this fee increase will not impact annual local government revenue for St. Tammany Parish as there is currently no ordinance requiring the sheriff to impose the existing fee. However, in order to provide potential revenue impacts, we estimate that the fee increase provided by the bill may increase potential local government revenue in St. Tammany Parish by approximately \$14,000 annually (based on information obtained from the sheriff's office).

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}

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