



**OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR  
Fiscal Note**

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

**Date:** April 19, 2022 1:04 PM **Author:** MCMATH  
**Dept./Agy.:** St. Tammany and Washington Parish Governing Authorities **Analyst:** Jodie Debetaz  
**Subject:** Fees for Judicial System

CLERKS OF COURT RE +\$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 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            | <b>\$0</b>           |
| Agy. Self-Gen.      | \$0            | \$0            | \$0            | \$0            | \$0            | <b>\$0</b>           |
| Ded./Other          | \$0            | \$0            | \$0            | \$0            | \$0            | <b>\$0</b>           |
| Federal Funds       | \$0            | \$0            | \$0            | \$0            | \$0            | <b>\$0</b>           |
| Local Funds         | <u>\$0</u>     | <u>\$0</u>     | <u>\$0</u>     | <u>\$0</u>     | <u>\$0</u>     | <b>\$0</b>           |
| <b>Annual Total</b> | <b>\$0</b>     | <b>\$0</b>     | <b>\$0</b>     | <b>\$0</b>     | <b>\$0</b>     | <b>\$0</b>           |

  

| 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              | <b>\$0</b>           |
| Agy. Self-Gen.      | \$0              | \$0              | \$0              | \$0              | \$0              | <b>\$0</b>           |
| Ded./Other          | \$0              | \$0              | \$0              | \$0              | \$0              | <b>\$0</b>           |
| Federal Funds       | \$0              | \$0              | \$0              | \$0              | \$0              | <b>\$0</b>           |
| Local Funds         | <u>\$670,000</u> | <u>\$670,000</u> | <u>\$670,000</u> | <u>\$670,000</u> | <u>\$670,000</u> | <b>\$3,350,000</b>   |
| <b>Annual Total</b> | <b>\$670,000</b> | <b>\$670,000</b> | <b>\$670,000</b> | <b>\$670,000</b> | <b>\$670,000</b> | <b>\$3,350,000</b>   |

**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 approximately \$670,000 per year (\$614,000 for St. Tammany Parish and \$56,000 for Washington Parish).**

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}

**Michael G. Battle**  
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