



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE  
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 545** HLS 23RS 780

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> May 1, 2023	6:38 PM	<b>Author:</b> JORDAN
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Corrections		
<b>Subject:</b> Telecommunications Services for the Incarcerated		<b>Analyst:</b> Daniel Druilhet

CORRECTIONS/PRISONERS

OR INCREASE GF EX See Note

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Provides relative to payphones and communications for incarcerated individuals

Proposed law would remove all charges assessed for calls made by incarcerated persons or calls to persons accepting communications from an incarcerated person in custody of the Department of Public Safety & Corrections (DPS&C). Proposed law would mandate that any negotiations for procurement of telecommunications services by the DPS&C be conducted in accordance with and subject to provisions of the Louisiana Procurement Code.

Proposed law would mandate that no contract for telecommunications services provided to a person incarcerated and in the custody of the DPS&C include any provisions which authorize charges to the incarcerated person or to the person accepting communications from the incarcerated person. Proposed law also provides the definition of telecommunication service.

EXPENDITURES	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total						

REVENUES	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	DECREASE	DECREASE	DECREASE	DECREASE	DECREASE	
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total						

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The enactment of proposed law will have an indeterminable impact to SGF expenditures to the Department of Public Safety & Corrections - CS. Proposed law may result in an estimated increase of \$1.5 M in SGF expenditures in FY 24 to the Department of Public Safety and Corrections Services (DPS&C - CS) to the extent that the existing system is eliminated and DPS&C - CS has to establish a telecommunications service for inmates. Alternatively, if the DPS&C - CS negotiates for procurement of telecommunications services with another provider pursuant to the Louisiana Procurement Code, the impact to expenditures may be less than or in excess of the \$1.5 M estimated by DPS&C - CS to establish its own telecommunications system. Proposed law would not only have the effect of eliminating the current system of telecommunications services provided by DPS&C, but it would also require DPS&C to provide a replacement system of telecommunications services. The current system of telecommunications services provided by DPS&C is one that is administered by Securis Technologies, a private corporation which has an existing contract with the Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections - Corrections Services that is slated to end March 8, 2024, if not renewed. According to the DPS&C - CS, it currently does not assume any expenditures to provide telecommunications services for calls made by incarcerated persons to persons accepting communications from an incarcerated person.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable decrease in SGR to the Department of Safety & Corrections - Corrections Services. The system of telecommunications services provided by Securis Technologies is one in which variable rates are assessed for collect, debit, and prepaid calls made by incarcerated persons to persons accepting communications from an incarcerated person. The resulting collections are SGR, in the form of telephone commissions, 70% of which is allocated to Securis Technologies, while 30% is allocated to DPS&C-CS. The exact fiscal impact of proposed law to SGR is indeterminable because there is no way to determine the number of calls that will be placed by inmates during any year, the length of those calls, the resulting telephone commissions that will generate, and how much SGR will be lost by DPS&C by eliminating telephone commissions from calls made by incarcerated persons or calls to persons accepting communications from an incarcerated person. For informational purposes only, for the last three years, telephone commissions have varied from \$5.8 M (FY 20), to \$6 M (FY 21), to \$5.4 M (FY 22).

Senate	Dual Referral Rules	House	<i>Evan Brasseaux</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}		<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}	<b>Evan Brasseaux</b> <b>Interim Deputy Fiscal Officer</b>