Louisiana Legislative Fiscal Office Fiscal Notes

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB** 84 HLS 24RS 195

Bill Text Version: ORIGINAL

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.: Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 11, 2024 3:06 PM Author: BAGLEY

Dept./Agy.: Public Safety

Subject: Supplemental Pay for Public EMS (Constitutional Amend)

Analyst: John McKay

SUPPLEMENTAL PAY OR +\$4,860,000 GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1 (Constitutional Amendment) Provides state supplemental pay to local emergency medical services practitioners

<u>Present constitution</u> authorizes state supplemental payments to law enforcement officers and firefighters employed by local governmental units or political subdivisions, provided that law enforcement officers and firefighters are employed full-time. <u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> additionally authorizes state supplemental payments to EMS practitioners employed by any municipality, parish, fire protection district, or political subdivision, provided those EMS practitioners are employed full-time. <u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> provides a proposition to be placed on the ballot for the statewide election held on 11/05/2024 for voters to approve.

A companion bill (HB 85) is the enabling legislation.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	SEE BELOW	\$4,860,000	\$4,860,000	\$4,860,000	\$14,580,000
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	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	\$0
Annual Total	\$0					\$0
REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed constitutional amendment will increase SGF expenditures by \$4.9 M in FY 27 in Schedule 20-966 Supplemental Pay as a result of adding EMS practitioners to the list of public employees that receive state supplemental pay. Each eligible EMS practitioner would receive \$600 per month or \$7,200 annually (\$600 per month x 12 months). In FY 27, the number of full-time EMS practitioners employed by parishes and municipalities that operate EMS services is anticipated to be 675. Under the proposed law, if all 675 EMS practitioners are eligible to receive supplemental pay, the cost would be \$4.9 M annually (675 EMS practitioners x \$7,200). The fiscal impact of this measure in FY 27 and subsequent fiscal years depends on the number of eligible EMS practitioners receiving supplemental pay.

Proposed constitutional amendment will increase Local Funds expenditures by an indeterminable amount as state supplemental payments are included in the pensionable earnings used in the calculation of retirement benefits.

<u>Note</u>: The enabling legislation is in companion bill HB 85. If enacted into law, this proposed constitutional amendment on EMS practitioners receiving state supplemental pay will be on the official ballot for the November 5, 2024 statewide election.

DPS reports the Office of Technology Services (OTS) would perform the programming changes at an estimated cost of \$48,696 for an IT contractor (400 hours x \$120 per hour = $$48,000 \times 1.45\%$ Medicare = \$696). The Legislative Fiscal Office believes that the department can potentially accomplish these tasks utilizing existing resources and budget authority as similar changes are enacted annually by legislative instruments and paid from base funding. To the extent that numerous pieces of legislation are enacted that require additional programming efforts, DPS/OMV may require additional resources.

DPS indicates they will likely experience an increased workload to process additional payments. They estimate that they will need one Administrative Program Specialist position at an annual cost of approximately \$88,239 (\$52,936 salaries and \$35,304 related benefits). The LFO cannot corroborate that the requirements of the proposed law will create a workload level sufficient to require an additional employee. To the extent that existing employees are used, personnel costs will be mitigated.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

<u>Senate</u>	Dual Referral Rules	House	
x 13.5.1 >=	\$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}	\mathbf{X} 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}	ature Momore
13.5.2 >=	\$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee	6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase	Patrice Thomas
_	Change (S & H)	or a Net Fee Decrease (S)	Deputy Fiscal Officer