



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 343** HLS 24RS 107
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 23, 2024 4:05 PM	Author: BACALA
Dept./Agy.: Supreme Court/District Courts/District Attorneys	Analyst: Daniel Druilhet
Subject: Adoption of National Standards for Criminal Trials	

CRIMINAL/PROCEDURE OR +\$10,281,792 SG EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Provides relative to the adoption of national standards for criminal adjudications

Proposed law requires that by January 1, 2025, the Louisiana Supreme Court adopt the Model Time Standards for State Trial Courts, and adopt rules necessary for the implementation of the standards; requires adjudication time standards relative to institution of prosecution for felony cases as follows - 75% within 90 days, 90% within 180 days, and 98% within 365 days; requires adjudication time standards relative to institution of prosecution for misdemeanors as follows - 75% within 60 days, 90% within 90 days, and 98% within 180 days; requires adjudication time standards relative to offenses related to violations of traffic or parish or municipal ordinances as follows - 75% within 30 days, 90% within 60 days; 98% within 90 days; requires judgment to be rendered within 180 days of the court's receipt of the application for habeas corpus or post-conviction relief; requires formation of a "Timely Delivery of Justice Board" and provides structure and duties of the board, including formulation of plans necessary for data collection to measure compliance with time standards and the submission of a data collection plan and annual report to the Louisiana Supreme Court; requires each judicial division to submit data to its judicial district's board as necessary to measure compliance; requires the Louisiana Supreme Court to include data provided by judicial districts within its annual report; requires Supreme Court to take all steps necessary to identify why time standards are not met.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$10,281,792	\$10,275,000	\$10,275,000	\$10,275,000	\$10,275,000	\$51,381,792
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	\$6,084,000	\$6,084,000	\$6,084,000	\$6,084,000	\$6,084,000	\$30,420,000
Annual Total	\$16,365,792	\$16,359,000	\$16,359,000	\$16,359,000	\$16,359,000	\$81,801,792

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

The proposed law is anticipated to increase FY 25 expenditures by a minimum of \$16.36 M (\$10.28 M SGF and \$6.08 M Local Funds) for district attorneys' offices, district courts, and the Louisiana Supreme Court associated with increased workload to implement the new time standards for adjudicating criminal cases. This cost will be annualized in future fiscal years.

District Attorneys

District Attorneys indicated that they will need to hire 156 new assistant district attorneys at an estimated total annual cost of \$16.2 M (\$10.1 M SGF and \$6.1 M Local Funds). The total cost is estimated as follows - \$65,000 salary and benefits + \$39,000 supplemental pay and benefits = \$104,000 salary and benefits x 156 = \$16.24 M.

SGF	Salary	#ADAs	Annual Cost
Salaries	\$50,000	x 156	= \$7,800,000
Benefits (30%)	\$15,000	x 156	= \$2,340,000
			\$10,140,000
Local			
Additional Salary	\$30,000	x 156	= \$4,680,000
Benefits (30%)	\$9,000	x 156	= \$1,404,000
			\$6,084,000
Total Annual DA Cost			<u>\$16,224,000</u>

Supreme Court

The Supreme Court indicated that they will need to hire one additional staff attorney at an estimated cost of \$141,792 SGF (\$135,000 annually for \$85,000 salaries, \$49,952 related benefits) and \$6,792 one time in FY 25 for equipment, software, and related licenses).

District Courts

The fiscal impact on district courts is indeterminable but will likely involve increased local funds expenditures for additional trial weeks, motions hearings, and juror compensation. The cost of forming the required "Time Delivery of Justice Boards" in each judicial district is also indeterminable.

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}

Patrice Thomas
 Deputy Fiscal Officer