



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 135** HLS 24RS 343
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 25, 2024 7:10 PM	Author: TURNER
Dept./Agy.: Corrections	Analyst: Daniel Druilhet
Subject: Employment - Medication Attendants in Corrections	

HEALTH CARE OR SEE FISC NOTE GF EX Page 1 of 1
 Authorizes correctional facilities to employ medication attendants certified by the Louisiana Department of Health

Current law provides for the creation of a program to authorize certification of medication attendants to perform certain functions in licensed long-term care facilities; requires persons who have successfully completed an approved medication administration course, passed a qualifying certification examination, and been issued a current certification by the department to be permitted to administer certain medications to residents of licensed-long-term care facilities; provides qualifications for applicants to the medication administration course and establishment of a registry of those certified to practice as medication attendants. Proposed law adds correctional facilities to the list of facilities that may employ certified medication attendants; provides the definition of correctional facilities; adds a certified nurse aide with one year of experience in a correctional facility to be eligible to participate in the medication administration course; adds identity and verification requirements applicable to graduates of the medication administration course and those hired with the nurse aide registry in licensed long-term care facilities to those hired as medication attendants in corrections facilities.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
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	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

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

The proposed legislation adds correctional facilities to the list of facilities in which certified medication attendants are authorized to perform certain functions and requires any correctional facility using medication attendants to maintain a permanent registry of all persons certified as medication attendants.

Certification of medication attendants is a responsibility that has been traditionally performed by the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), through a three-year pilot program that began in 2008 and ended in 2011. LDH no longer has funding or positions to perform this function. Additionally, correctional facilities have not indicated a need to secure any additional medication attendants, as there are staff currently within the facilities that administer medication. To the extent that the LDH resumes certifying any additional medication attendants as a result of this bill, the LFO presumes that LDH can do so using existing staff and resources, given that the Department of Public Safety & Corrections - Corrections Services (DPS&C) has indicated that they do not plan to hire any medication attendants.

Note: The Louisiana Department of Health indicated that it would need to secure six additional T.O. positions for an expected increased workload. They estimate that they will need one long-term care program manager, one complaint program manager, one administrative assistant, and three surveyors at an annual cost of approximately \$617,757 for salaries and benefits. The LFO cannot corroborate that the proposed law's requirements will create a workload level sufficient to require six additional employees. 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.

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