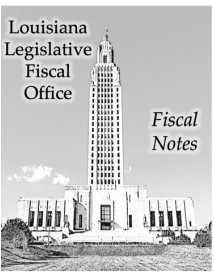


LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 500** HLS 24RS 684
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 6, 2024	9:52 AM	Author: GREEN
Dept./Agy.: Courts		
Subject: Increases Pay for Jury Duty		Analyst: Daniel Druilhet

JURY DUTY EG INCREASE LF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Increases the pay for jury duty

Current law provides that the daily compensation rate for jurors in criminal cases shall be \$25 for each day of jury service, and the mileage allowance shall not be less than 16 cents per mile nor more than the rate in effect for state officials; provides that except as provided by special law, jurors in civil cases who attend may demand and receive \$50 for each day of jury service and an amount equal to the rate in effect for state officials for each mile necessarily traveled in going to and returning from the courthouse. Proposed law increases the daily compensation rate for both jurors in criminal and civil cases as follows -- in criminal cases, \$25 each day, beginning the second day, during voir dire, and \$58 for each day of attendance in court once impaneled; in civil cases, \$80 for each day of attendance in court; retains compensation rates relative to mileage.

EXPENDITURES	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	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
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

Proposed law will likely result in an indeterminable, yet significant, increase in Local Funds expenditures in judicial expense funds for criminal trials. Proposed law has the effect of increasing the daily compensation for jurors participating in civil trials by 60% and more than doubling the daily compensation rate (132% increase) for jurors participating in criminal trials. There will be no expenditure impact to state or local government for civil jurors, as the costs of convening juries in civil trials (including juror compensation) are borne by the parties that request a jury trial.

For illustrative purposes, for the past three years, there was an average of 443 criminal jury trials annually throughout the district courts. Assuming that in each of these jury trials, there was a total of 14 jurors impaneled (12 jurors and two alternates) over the course of three days (voire dire beginning the second day, with a two-day jury trial convened afterward), costs incurred by the criminal courts would more than double.

Estimated annual cost under current law
 443 trials x \$25 daily compensation x 14 jurors x 1 day of voire dire = \$155,050*
 443 trials x \$25 daily compensation x 14 jurors x 2 days of trial = \$310,100
 \$310,100 + \$155,050 = \$465,150

Estimated annual cost under proposed law
 443 trials x \$25 daily compensation x 14 jurors x 1 day of voire dire = \$155,050*
 443 trials x \$58 daily compensation x 14 jurors x 2 days of trial = \$719,432
 \$719,432 + \$155,050 = \$874,482

Increase in annual costs from current law to proposed law
 \$874,482 cost under proposed law - \$465,150 cost under current law = \$409,332

*Note: The above figures represent only a portion of a full jury venire questioned prior to a jury being impaneled for criminal or civil trials. Voire dire expenditures are likely to exceed this amount for each potential juror compelled for jury service and questioned during voire dire that exceeds 14 jurors.

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