



**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **HB 358** HLS 24RS 659
 Bill Text Version: **REENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 30, 2024 5:12 PM	Author: BACALA
Dept./Agy.: Judiciary and Secretary of State	
Subject: Additional Judgeship - 23rd Judicial District Court	Analyst: Daniel Druilhet

JUDGES RE SEE FISC NOTE EX Page 1 of 1
 Creates an additional judgeship for the 23rd Judicial District Court

Current law states that the 23rd Judicial District Court shall have five judges, one to be elected from section one, and four to be elected from section two. Proposed law adds one judgeship to the 23rd Judicial District Court, retains one judge to be elected from section one, and five five to be elected from section two.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	\$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 law may result in an increase of \$231,442 (\$221,442 in annual expenses and \$10,000 in one-time expenses) in FY 26 and will be annualized in future fiscal years (approximately \$442,883 annually). These expenses are associated with adding one judge within the 23rd Judicial District Court (Ascension Parish, Assumption Parish, and St. James Parish). The new judgeship becomes effective contingent on if and when a work point study by the National Center for State Courts is completed in concurrence with HCR 39 of the 2024 RS and concludes that an additional district court judgeship is necessary. Also, HCR 39 requires submission of the work point study by the Judicial Structure Task Force by 2/01/25. The LFO presumes that, if the work point study concludes that an additional district court judgeship is necessary in the 23rd Judicial District Court, the creation of the judgeship contemplated by the proposed law will begin on 1/01/26.

The projected budget for the new judgeship is as follows:

\$81,194	(1) Judge Salary
\$6,300	Judge Supplemental Compensation
\$25,000	(1) Court Reporter Salary
\$25,000	(1) Legal Secretary Salary
\$72,023	Related Benefits
\$4,075	Travel
\$3,600	Vehicle Lease
\$2,500	Office Supplies
\$1,750	Insurance
\$10,000	Furniture (One-Time Expense in FY 25)
\$231,442	Total FY 26*

*FY 26 represents 6 months of funding.

Note: The expenses will be funded with 57% SGF, 4% Statutory Dedications (Judges Supplemental Compensation Fund), and 39% Local Funds.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

Senate
 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