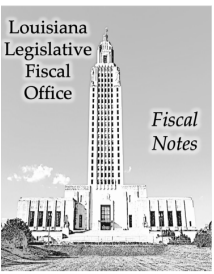


**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE**  
**Fiscal Note**



Fiscal Note On: **SB 5** SLS 243ES 24  
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.: **w/ PROP SEN COMM AMD**  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> November 12, 2024 3:25 PM	<b>Author:</b> MORRIS, JAY
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Courts and Secretary of State	
<b>Subject:</b> Elections for New and Vacant Judgeships	<b>Analyst:</b> Daniel Druilhet

COURTS EG NO IMPACT GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1

Constitutional amendment to provide for elections to fill newly-created judgeships and judicial vacancies and for exceptions as to courts of limited or specialized jurisdictions. (2/3 - CA13s1(A)) (Item #20)

Current law provides that a vacancy of a judge shall be filled by special election called by the governor and held within twelve months after the day on which the vacancy occurs or judgeship is established, except when the vacancy occurs in the last twelve months of an existing term; provides that an appointee to a vacancy that is filled is ineligible as a candidate at the election to fill the vacancy or newly created judicial office. Proposed law provides that a vacancy or newly created judgeship shall be filled by special election called by the governor and held on the election date first available pursuant to applicable law; provides that if the date of the next gubernatorial or congressional election is within twelve months of the date of when the vacancy occurred, then the special election shall be held in the next gubernatorial or special election, if the special election can be held on that date in accordance with law; provides that the proposed law (constitutional amendment) shall be submitted to voters at a statewide election to be held on 3/29/25 or at another statewide election authorized by law, whichever occurs first.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	\$0	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>					<b>\$0</b>

REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

The proposed constitutional amendment may result in cost savings to the Department of State and local governmental units when holding a special election for a vacant judgeship. The proposed constitutional amendment requires any special election be held on the next available election date unless the date of the next gubernatorial or congressional election date is within twelve months of the vacancy of a judgeship, in which case the special election must be held at the next gubernatorial or congressional election. If the proposed constitutional amendment changes the timing of elections to align the dates with elections currently scheduled, then the Department of State and local governments may realize cost savings by not having to pay for a special election outside of a regular election date or outside of a statewide election day. For local governments that conduct a special election outside of the twelve-month period, the cost normally imposed is \$1,500 per precinct in Local Funds expenditures.

**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**