LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Louisiana Legislative Fiscal Office — Fiscal Notes

Fiscal Note On: **HB 571** HLS 26RS 1021

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date:	March 18, 2026 4:08 PM	**Author:**	LAFLEUR
Dept./Agy.:	19th Judicial District Court		
Subject:	Creating the Complex Litigation Section in the 19th JDC	**Analyst:**	Daniel Druilhet

COURTS/COURT COSTS OR NO IMPACT See Note

Provides relative to creating the Complex Litigation Section Program in the Nineteenth Judicial District Court

Current law provides for the Complex Litigation Section in the 19th Judicial District Court; provides that the 19th Judicial District Court may establish the Complex Litigation Section Fund to provide for additional filing fees for complex litigation cases; provides that the clerk of court may demand a receive a filing fee of $200 for each case referred to the Section; provides that the clerk of court shall collect all monies generated under current law and forward them to the 19th Judicial District Court for placement in a separate account to be designated as the Complex Litigation Section Fund for the 19th Judicial District Court; provides that the Fund may be used for any operating expenses, including salaries; provides that the court shall keep accurate records, shall cause to be conducted an annual audit of the fund and the books and accounts relating to the fund, and shall file the audit with the office of the auditor, available for public inspection; provides that the pilot program is effective for a period of two years, unless extended by the legislature. Proposed law repeals the current law provision regarding the effective dates of the pilot program and necessity for the legislature to extend it.

EXPENDITURES	**2026-27**	**2027-28**	**2028-29**	**2029-30**	**2030-31**	**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**

REVENUES	**2026-27**	**2027-28**	**2028-29**	**2029-30**	**2030-31**	**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.

Since the inception of the Complex Litigation Section within the Nineteenth Judicial District Court, no additional employees have been hired, and all of the cases placed under the Complex Litigation Section have been placed within a designated division of the court. This has not necessitated hiring additional employees or requiring specialized expenditures. Additionally, any projected expenditures for auditing the Complex Litigation Section Fund are unnecessary, as any associated audit of the Complex Litigation Section Fund is absorbed within the audit of the court's operating account each year.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

Since the inception of the Complex Litigation Section within the Nineteenth Judicial District, between 1/01/25 and 3/28/26, only two cases collected the $200 filing fee for cases assigned to the Complex Litigation Judicial Expense Fund. Establishing the section on a permanent basis is not projected to produce any significant amount of revenue within the Complex Litigation Judicial Expense Fund.

Senate	Dual Referral Rules	House
☐ 13.5.1 >= $100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}		☐ 6.8(F)(1) >= $100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
☐ 13.5.2 >= $500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}		☐ 6.8(G) >= $500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Patrice Thomas

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