



**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE  
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **HB 785** HLS 26RS 413  
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> March 20, 2026 3:23 PM	<b>Author:</b> GEYMANN
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry	<b>Analyst:</b> Richie Anderson
<b>Subject:</b> Animal Rehabilitation Program	

WILDLIFE/ENFORCEMENT OR +\$600,001 GF EX See Note Page 1 of 2  
 Establishes animal rehabilitation oversight within the Department of Agriculture

Proposed law establishes an Animal Rehabilitation Program within the Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) to provide care and treatment of orphaned and injured indigenous animals for the state. Proposed law requires the Commissioner of LDAF to work with the state veterinarian to establish rules and procedures for the program.

Proposed law is effective if and when the proposed constitutional amendment in HB 711 is adopted at a statewide election and becomes effective.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$600,001	\$600,751	\$612,774	\$628,957	\$645,626	\$3,088,109
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
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$600,001</b>	<b>\$600,751</b>	<b>\$612,774</b>	<b>\$628,957</b>	<b>\$645,626</b>	<b>\$3,088,109</b>
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
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law increases SGF expenditures by \$600,001 in FY 27, \$600,751 in FY 28, \$612,774 in FY 29, \$628,957 in FY 30, and \$645,626 in FY 31, for the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) to establish an Animal Rehabilitation Program within the department.

To establish this program, the department requires four new positions: a Veterinarian, two (2) Agriculture Specialists, and an Administrative Assistant. Additionally, the department reports an increase in overtime pay for legal and enforcement staff to administer the program. A breakdown of position title, salary, and related benefits is present on page 2 of this fiscal note.

LDAF also reports an increase in costs for Operating Services which includes phones, maintenance, supplies, and the leasing of three vehicles; Acquisitions consisting of office supplies and RFID scanners; and, Travel which includes travel and training expenses. Below is a breakdown by expenditure category of the required expenditures for LDAF.

Expenditure Category	FY 27	FY 28	FY 29	FY 30	FY 31
Personal Services	\$508,361	\$527,411	\$539,434	\$555,617	\$572,286
Operating Services	\$57,340	\$57,340	\$57,340	\$57,340	\$57,340
Acquisitions	\$18,300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000
<b>Total SGF Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$600,001</b>	<b>\$600,751</b>	<b>\$612,774</b>	<b>\$628,957</b>	<b>\$645,626</b>

**Expenditure Explanation Continued On Page 2**

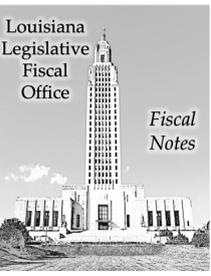
**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

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



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**CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:**

**Continued Expenditure Explanation:**

Below is a breakdown for the required positions for the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry to implement the proposed law. The total salaries and related benefits will increase by 3% annually for market rate adjustments.

**Personal Services Expenditure Category**

<b>Position Title</b>	<b>FY 27</b>	<b>FY 28</b>	<b>FY 29</b>	<b>FY 30</b>	<b>FY 31</b>
Veterinarian	\$100,443	\$103,456	\$106,560	\$109,757	\$113,049
Agriculture Specialist	\$60,590	\$62,408	\$64,280	\$66,208	\$68,195
Agriculture Specialist	\$60,590	\$62,408	\$64,280	\$66,208	\$68,195
Administrative Assistant	\$38,854	\$40,019	\$41,220	\$42,458	\$43,730
<b>Total Salaries:</b>	<b>\$260,477</b>	<b>\$268,291</b>	<b>\$276,340</b>	<b>\$284,630</b>	<b>\$293,169</b>
Total Related Benefits:	\$208,781	\$215,044	\$221,496	\$228,141	\$234,985
Legal and Enforcement OT	\$39,103	\$44,076	\$41,598	\$42,846	\$44,132
<b>Total Personal Services:</b>	<b>\$508,361</b>	<b>\$527,411</b>	<b>\$539,434</b>	<b>\$555,617</b>	<b>\$572,286</b>

**Senate**      Dual Referral Rules  
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}  
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**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}

  
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