LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 218** HLS 26RS 647
Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
Opp. Chamb. Action:
Proposed Amd.:
Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 27, 2026 2:36 PM **Author:** LAFLEUR
Dept./Agy.: Education
Subject: Food insecurity screening program **Analyst:** Julie Silva

SCHOOLS EG NO IMPACT See Note
Provides for the administration of food insecurity screenings to public school students

Proposed legislation requires school boards to screen students in grades kindergarten through 12 for food insecurity at enrollment, upon change of address, once each school year for students identified as economically disadvantaged, and during visits to school-based health clinics or when school personnel have reasonable suspicion of food insecurity. If a screening indicates a student is at risk, the school must provide information and outreach to the student and/or their parent or legal guardian regarding federal, state, community, and school resources, including public assistance programs, social services, community food banks and pantries, and school meal programs. Requires the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE), in consultation with the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), to identify and provide a screening tool at no cost to schools or school boards. Responses to the screening are confidential and may not be used by school personnel to make decisions regarding instruction, academic opportunities, or discipline.

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 state or local governmental expenditures as a result of administering food insecurity screenings and providing standardized procedures for responding to screening results as provided in proposed legislation.

Any increase in workload related to these requirements is expected to be absorbable within existing processes and using existing resources. The Hunger Vital Sign, a standard two-question tool recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, is expected to be incorporated into the residency questionnaire used for the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Children and Youth Assistance Act, and may be readily provided to students during health screenings or as otherwise required by proposed legislation.

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE), in consultation with the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), will utilize existing personnel to support school systems in implementing the screening tool. Responses to the screening are confidential and may only be used for the provision of outreach and referral to resources; school personnel may not use responses to make decisions regarding instruction, academic opportunities, or discipline.

Note: Information concerning the impact of proposed legislation on local education agencies (LEAs) has been requested from the Louisiana School Boards Association (LSBA). No response was received prior to the publication of this fiscal note. If and when additional relevant information is received, this note will be updated.

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