

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **SB 194** SLS 26RS 477

Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 28, 2026	8:08 AM	Author: MIGUEZ
Dept./Agy.: Louisiana Department of Health/Medicaid		Analyst: Anthony Shamis
Subject: Provides for public benefits eligibility		

FUNDS/FUNDING EG SEE FISC NOTE See Note Page 1 of 1
Requires the referral of applicants who fail citizenship or immigration verification to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. (8/1/26)

Present law requires state agencies and political subdivisions to verify that applicants for federal, state, or local public benefits are recognized as U.S. citizens or have satisfactory immigration status as a qualified alien as defined in federal law.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that for the purposes of Medicaid, Medicare, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and any health plan offered through the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the term "qualified alien" shall be limited to: (1) an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence as an immigrant, as defined in federal law, excluding alien visitors, tourists, diplomats, students, and other individuals admitted temporarily without intent to abandon a foreign residence, (2) an alien granted the status of Cuban or Haitian entrant, as defined in the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980 (Pub. L. 96-422), (3) an individual lawfully residing in the U.S. pursuant to a Compact Free Association, as referenced in federal law. Proposed law requires the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to provide a single reasonable opportunity period not to exceed the minimum period required under federal law for an applicant seeking Medicaid enrollment. No additional reasonable opportunity period shall be granted to an applicant who has been previously denied eligibility due to failure to failure to verify citizenship or satisfactory immigration status. Proposed law requires LDH to seek any state plan amendment or waiver from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) necessary to carry out the provisions of this measure.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Annual Total

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

Proposed law may increase expenditures within the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), Medical Vendor Administration (MVA) Program, by an indeterminable but minimal amount associated with providing Medicaid applicants a reasonable opportunity to verify citizenship or immigration status when such information cannot be confirmed through available data sources.

LDH indicates that necessary eligibility system enhancements and associated workload will be performed by existing personnel and will be absorbed within existing resources.

Note: The Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) has requested an updated fiscal impact from LDH to reflect Senate Committee on Health and Welfare amendments. The LFO believes the adopted amendments do not alter the original fiscal note. Upon receipt of additional information, this fiscal note may be revised.

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}

Alan M. Boxberger
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Legislative Fiscal Officer