



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR

Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: HB 34 HLS 051ES 276
Bill Text Version: ORIGINAL
Opp. Chamb. Action:
Sub. Bill For.:
Proposed Amd.:

Date: November 8, 2005 3:46 PM
Dept./Agy.: Local Government
Subject: Homestead Exemption
Author: ALARIO
Analyst: Shawn Dietrich

TAX/AD VALOREM-EXEMPTION OR +\$116,000 GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
(Constitutional Amendment) Provides for continuation of homestead exemption and special assessment level for property damaged or destroyed by natural disaster (Item #41)

Purpose of Bill: Proposes a constitutional amendment that continues the homestead exemption and special assessment level for any qualifying homestead that is damaged or destroyed during a disaster or emergency declared by the governor and whose owner is unable to occupy the homestead on or before December 31st of a future calendar year due to such damage or destruction. Owners must file with their assessors an affidavit of intent to return and reoccupy the homestead within five years from December 31st of the year following the disaster. Owners may receive only one homestead exemption. Provides for a statewide election to be held on February 4, 2006.

Table with 7 columns: EXPENDITURES, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 5-YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total.

Table with 7 columns: REVENUES, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 5-YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total.

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

This bill could increase state general fund expenditures by approximately \$116,000 in fiscal year 2005-06.

According to the Secretary of State's office for a similar bill, the total cost of placing the proposed amendment on the ballot for a statewide election and publishing the proposal in the 64 official parish journals is about \$116,000. This cost would be prorated among all governmental authorities that have items on the ballot. Without knowing the specific details of how many governing authorities will have items on the ballot or the number of precincts involved, a more specific estimate cannot be calculated.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

This bill allows home owners already receiving a homestead exemption to continue to receive the exemption even though they cannot occupy the dwelling due to damage or destruction on or before December 31st of a future calendar year. To continue to receive the exemption, the homeowner must file an affidavit with the assessor of his intent to return home within 5 years from December 31st of the year following the disaster.

This bill allows home owners already receiving a special assessment level to keep the special assessment level even though they cannot occupy the homestead on or before December 31st of a future calendar year. The owner must reoccupy the repaired homestead within five years of December 31st of the year following the disaster.

Senate

Dual Referral Rules

House

13.5.1 >= \$500,000 Annual Fiscal Cost

6.8(F) >= \$500,000 Annual Fiscal Cost

13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change

6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease

Handwritten signature of David K. Greer

David K. Greer
Director, Performance Audit