

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 560** HLS 13RS 1029
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 9, 2013 12:18 PM	Author: JACKSON, G
Dept./Agy.: Department of Transportation and Development	Analyst: Alan M. Boxberger
Subject: Provides relative to uncollected tolls on the CCC	

BRIDGES/FERRIES OR INCREASE SD EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Provides relative to uncollected tolls on the Crescent City Connection

Proposed law provides amnesty for persons alleged to have failed to pay the toll on the Crescent City Connection between January 1, 2013, and March 5, 2013. Proposed law provides that any violations issued by DOTD for alleged nonpayment of tolls during this time period is null and void. Proposed law provides that DOTD shall refund all tolls, charges, and fees paid by persons who received a notice of violation for the alleged nonpayment of tolls during this time period. Proposed law prohibits DOTD from mailing out further notices of violations to registered owners of motor vehicles for nonpayment of tolls during this time period.

EXPENDITURES	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	INCREASE	\$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

REVENUES	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	(\$434,845)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$434,845)
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	(\$434,845)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$434,845)

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law will result in a one-time, indeterminable increase in statutory dedication expenditures. On 3/5/13, Judge William Morvant of the 19th Judicial District Court nullified the November 6th election that extended toll collections on the Crescent City Connection Bridge for a 20 year period beginning on 1/1/13, and ordered that a new election take place on 5/4/13. DOTD ceased collecting tolls at 6pm on the evening of the judgment. The department will realize an indeterminable expenditure associated with the administrative tasks and functions of refunding payments already made during the period 1/1/13, and 3/5/13. Based on violations issued during this time period, the total amount due was \$482,870. To date, \$48,025 of that total has been remitted to DOTD. Proposed law will require the department to issue checks or refund credit and debit cards for each payment received to date, with expenditures paid from the Crescent City Connection Toll Fund.

The expenditures associated with refunds of toll violations are anticipated to be absorbed within existing duties of current staff members, resulting in expenditures equal to the hourly rate of pay and related benefits of multiple individuals across multiple job titles. In some cases, this activity may result in overtime pay. Alleged violators that paid by check or cash will require issuance of a manual check as they are not official vendors of the state.

The department anticipates utilizing part of the balance of the CCC Trust Account, which was deposited into the Statutory Dedication - Crescent City Connection Transition Fund, in order to cover the necessary expenditures. The department is unable to estimate total expenditures at this time. The Crescent City Connection Transition Fund has a balance within the State Treasury of \$17.3 M as of 4/8/13, of which \$11.2 M is earmarked for existing capital outlay projects within the footprint of the Crescent City Connection bridge and connecting arteries. The remaining balance of \$5.2 M is available to the New Orleans Regional Planning Commission for the purposes of operations, maintenance, landscaping, grass cutting, trash pick up, functional and ornamental lighting and capital projects on ingress and egress points of the CCC Bridge. This portion would be partially reduced by an indeterminable amount in the event DOTD utilizes these funds to pay for refunds of toll violations unless an alternative means of finance is identified or appropriated.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Proposed law provides that any violations issued by DOTD for alleged nonpayment of tolls during the period of January 1, 2013, and March 5, 2013, are null and void. Based on violations issued during this time period, the total amount due was \$482,870. To date, \$48,025 of that total has been remitted to DOTD. The department will realize a reduction in future revenues in the balance between total violations and collections to date of \$434,845.

<u>Senate</u>	<u>Dual Referral Rules</u>	<u>House</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}	<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F) >= \$500,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S}	
<input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}	<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}	

Evan Brasseaux

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