



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: SB 37 SLS 14RS 203
Bill Text Version: ORIGINAL
Opp. Chamb. Action:
Proposed Amd.:
Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 17, 2014 3:43 PM
Author: CORTEZ
Dept./Agy.: City Court of Lafayette
Subject: Civil Jurisdiction
Analyst: Anthony Truong

COURTS OR SEE FISC NOTE LF RV Page 1 of 1
Increases the civil jurisdictional amount in dispute for the City Court of Lafayette. (8/1/14)

Purpose of Bill: This bill increases the civil jurisdiction limit for the City Court of Lafayette from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Currently, the 15th Judicial District Court (15th JDC) can hear civil cases in which the amount in dispute or value of property involved is between \$15,000 and \$20,000, while the City Court of Lafayette cannot hear these cases. This bill would give both the 15th JDC and the City Court jurisdiction over these cases.

Table with 7 columns: EXPENDITURES, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 5-YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total. All values are \$0 or SEE BELOW.

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The impact of this bill on governmental expenditures is indeterminable.

An official with the City Court of Lafayette indicated that this bill would not impact City Court expenditures based on receiving 300 additional filings per year as a result of this bill.

An official with the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court indicated that Clerk of Court expenditures could decrease depending on the number of civil cases that would be heard by the City Court rather than in the 15th JDC.

An official with the 15th JDC indicated that the impact on expenditures is indeterminable due to lack of information regarding current filings that may be impacted by this bill.

It must be noted that it is difficult to determine exactly how many cases will heard by the City Court rather than in the 15th JDC, due to the permissiveness of the bill and the lack of information regarding cases that may be affected by this bill.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

The impact of this bill on governmental revenues is indeterminable.

An official with the City Court of Lafayette indicated that revenues may increase by \$45,000 annually (300 additional filings per year x \$150 deposit per filing). Although the City Court's figures appear to be based on historical data, the official indicated that there was no way of determining if this filing increase would occur.

An official with the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court informed us that Clerk of Court revenue may decrease annually as cases are heard in the City Court rather than in the 15th JDC. However, the magnitude of this decrease is indeterminable due to the permissiveness of the bill and the lack of information regarding cases that may be affected by this bill.

An official with the 15th JDC indicated that the impact on revenues is indeterminable due to lack of information regarding current filings that may be affected by this bill.

It must be noted that it is difficult to determine exactly how many cases will heard by the City Court rather than in the 15th JDC, due to the permissiveness of the bill and the lack of information regarding cases that may be affected by this bill.

- Senate Dual Referral Rules House
13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}
13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}
6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
6.8(F)(2) >= \$500,000 State Rev. Reduc. {H & S}
6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Joy Irwin
Director of Advisory Services