



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 600** HLS 16RS 374

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 12, 2016 10:17 AM	Author: LEGER
Dept./Agy.: Municipal & Traffic Court of New Orleans	Analyst: David Greer
Subject: Divisions of court, Judges' qualifications, salaries, & costs	

COURTS OR +\$56,500 LF EX See Note
Provides for the Municipal and Traffic Court of New Orleans

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Purpose of the Bill: Provides the qualifications and salaries for municipal and traffic court judges; abolishes one judgeship effective in 2021; provides for appointment and compensation of ad hoc judge; provides for appointment of court reporter; provides for police officers to keep order and execute decrees of the judges; and addresses court costs.

EXPENDITURES	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$31,829)	(\$31,829)
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	\$28,250	\$56,500	\$56,500	\$56,500	(\$127,268)	\$70,482
Annual Total	\$28,250	\$56,500	\$56,500	\$56,500	(\$159,097)	\$38,653

REVENUES	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.						
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Annual Total						

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

This measure may increase local government expenditures by \$56,500 per year.

According to a representative of the New Orleans Municipal Court, two division judges will receive salary and benefits increases totaling \$56,500 annually, beginning in January 2017, to bring them to the same salary as a district court judge in and for the parish of Orleans. Two judges, the current administrative judges of the traffic court and municipal court, are already receiving salary and benefits at this level. Beginning in January 2022, three other division judges will receive increases to the level of a district court judge in and for the parish of Orleans.

In January 2021, one judgeship will be abolished which will decrease expenditures by \$431,195 annually (\$367,536 local funding and \$63,659 state funding). The 1/2 year calculations for 2021 that are shown above are: State Funds \$63,659/2 = \$31,829 and Local Funds \$367,536/2 = \$183,768 - \$56,500 (annual increase) = \$127,268.

If R.S. 24:2500.1 is repealed, we assume that any decrease in expenditures for the probation department will be in the same amount as the loss of revenue from the probation fee that is being repealed.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

This measure may decrease local government revenue.

According to a representative of the New Orleans Municipal Court and based on 2015 collections, the changes to R.S. 13:2500.2 will result in a \$150,000 annual decrease in traffic court collections and an indeterminable increase in municipal court costs due to the assessment of additional costs for every offense. Currently the traffic court collects costs on every offense, however, the municipal court collects costs on every case. The municipal court does not have data on the number of offenses, therefore, we cannot provide an amount of the potential increase in revenue. In addition, the representative of the municipal court provided that the repeal of R.S. 12:2500.1 will result in a \$50,000 annual decrease in probation fee collections.

Senate Dual Referral Rules House

13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}

6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}

13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}

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

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