



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: HB 66 HLS 17RS 516
Bill Text Version: ENROLLED
Opp. Chamb. Action:
Proposed Amd.:
Sub. Bill For.:

Date: June 2, 2017 4:26 PM Author: MAGEE
Dept./Agy.: 32nd Judicial District Court Analyst: Sarah Futch
Subject: Court reporter fees

COURTS/COURT REPORTERS EN +\$14,298 LF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
Provides relative to transcript fees charged by court reporters in Terrebonne Parish

Purpose of Bill: This bill increases fees paid to court reporters from \$2.75 to \$3.50 per thirty-two line page and from \$.25 to \$.75 per page copy for all cases on appeal. The bill also adds a \$1.00 per page fee for copies requested by litigants. For matters not on appeal, a litigant requesting a transcript of testimony will enter into a fee-based private civil contract with the court reporter. This fee will be in accordance with fees customarily charged for depositions.

The bill provides that in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 13:62, the increase in court costs or fees shall become effective if and when the Judicial Council provides a recommendation that such court costs or fees meet the applicable guidelines in its 2018 Report to the Louisiana Legislature.

Table with 7 columns: EXPENDITURES, REVENUES, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 5 -YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total for both categories.

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

This bill may increase expenditures of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government's Criminal Court Fund by \$14,298 per year.

Civil cases: According to representatives from the Terrebonne Parish Clerk of Court, the 32nd Judicial District Court, the Terrebonne Parish District Attorney's Office, the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, and a court reporter from the 32nd Judicial District Court, court reporter fees for civil appeal cases are paid by the attorney or litigant directly to the court reporter and, therefore, will have no impact on expenditures.

Criminal cases: The bill may increase expenditures of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government because the criminal transcript fees are paid from its Criminal Court Fund. According to representatives from the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government and the Terrebonne Parish District Attorney's Office, the increase in expenditures could be approximately \$14,298 per year (\$52,956 x 27% = \$14,298). This estimate is based on the 2016 court reporting fee payments from the fund totaling \$52,956 and the 27% percent increase to the transcription fee proposed in the bill. The parish indicated the expenditure impact is difficult to project since the fees are determined on the type of case and how many copies are required per case.

A court reporter from the 32nd Judicial District Court indicated that the expenditure impact may be lower than the amount reported by the parish because the 2016 court reporting fee payments from the Criminal Court Fund on which the increase calculation is based includes Boykin fees (\$35 per guilty pleading that goes to the court reporter when they complete the transcript), which are not impacted by this bill.

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}

Signature of Michael G. Battle
Michael G. Battle
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