



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: HB 315 HLS 18RS 629
Bill Text Version: REENGROSSED
Opp. Chamb. Action:
Proposed Amd.:
Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 9, 2018 3:43 PM Author: CARPENTER
Dept./Agy.: Constables and Marshals Analyst: Steven Kraemer
Subject: Fees for Civil Matter

COURTS/COURT COSTS RE INCREASE LF RV See Note Page 1 of 1
Increases the fees for city marshals and constables for certain services

Purpose of the Bill: This bill increases 25 fees for services provided by city court constables and marshals statewide related to civil matters, except for certain excluded marshals. In addition, this bill provides that 60% of the funds collected from certain fees are to be used by constables and marshals for equipment and officer training. Also, this bill provides that these funds be deposited into an equipment and training fund and subject to and included in the constables' and marshals' annual audit.

The increase in court costs/fees provided by the bill will become effective if and when the Judicial Council provides a recommendation that the costs/fees meet applicable guidelines in its 2019 Report to the Louisiana Legislature.

Table with 7 columns: EXPENDITURES, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, 5-YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total. All revenue rows show \$0 for 2018-19 to 2022-23 and \$0 for 5-year total. Local Funds rows show INCREASE.

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

There may be an increase in local governmental expenditures as a result of this measure.

This bill provides that 60% of the funds collected from certain fees are to be deposited into an equipment and training fund and are to be used by constables and marshals for equipment and officer training (e.g., replacement of aging vehicles, safety equipment). However, the increase in expenditures for each office may vary.

This bill also provides that money in the equipment and training fund will be subject to and included in the constables' and marshals' annual audit. This provision will not increase expenditures as these funds are already subject to the annual audit process.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There may be an increase in local government revenues as a result of this measure.

We identified 47 constables and marshals in the state to which this bill appears to be applicable. While we were unable to determine the statewide impact of this bill, we obtained information from officials with three city marshal/constable offices (see below) that indicated that their respective annual revenues may increase as follows:

- Shreveport City Marshal = approximately \$313,000
Hammond City Marshal = approximately \$160,000
Bossier City Marshal = approximately \$55,000

Senate Dual Referral Rules
[X] 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}
[X] 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
Manager, Advisory Services