



**OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR  
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **HB 898** HLS 18RS 2447  
 Bill Text Version: **ENROLLED**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.: HB 511

<b>Date:</b> May 24, 2018 11:22 AM	<b>Author:</b> BACALA
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Local Law Enforcement & School Boards	<b>Analyst:</b> Steven Kraemer
<b>Subject:</b> School Violence & Terrorism	

MENTAL HEALTH EN INCREASE EX See Note Page 1 of 2  
 Provides relative to threats of violence or terrorism at elementary and secondary schools, including investigation and reporting thereof and required mental health evaluations

**Purpose of the Bill:** This bill requires school employees to report a "threat of violence" or a "threat of terrorism" to local law enforcement if there is a reasonable belief that the threat is credible and imminent or to school administrators if no reasonable belief exists (for further investigation). This bill requires each public school governing authority to develop and implement investigative procedures for these threats, and to report the threat to law enforcement if there is a concern that the threat is credible and imminent. In addition, the bill requires local law enforcement to investigate the threats and to report the threat to an authorized school official. If the suspect is a student, local law enforcement is required to petition the judicial district court for a medical/mental health evaluation, and the student is prohibited from returning to school until receiving the evaluation. If the suspect is not a student, the suspect is prohibited from being within 500 feet of any school until receiving a medical/mental health evaluation and being deemed to not be a danger to himself or others.

EXPENDITURES	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>2021-22</u>	<u>2022-23</u>	<u>5 -YEAR TOTAL</u>
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW					
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	SEE BELOW					
Local Funds	SEE BELOW					
<b>Annual Total</b>						

  

REVENUES	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>2021-22</u>	<u>2022-23</u>	<u>5 -YEAR TOTAL</u>
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	SEE BELOW					
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	SEE BELOW					
Local Funds	SEE BELOW					
<b>Annual Total</b>						

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

**This bill may increase State General Fund, Federal Fund, and Local Government Fund expenditures by an indeterminable amount.**

**Schools/Parishes**

Louisiana School Boards Association - An official indicated that this bill may increase school board expenditures by an interminable amount related to security at schools to bar individuals from campus and to train employees on recognizing threats of violence and terrorism.

**Local Law Enforcement**

East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office - Officials indicated that the bill would not impact expenditures as the requirements of the bill fall under the scope of services provided by the Sheriff.

***Continued on Page 2***

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

**This bill may increase Agency Self-Generated, Federal Fund, and Local Government Fund revenues by an indeterminable amount.**

This bill provides for mental health evaluations for suspects making threats of violence or terrorism against school employees or students under certain circumstances. Revenue may increase for governmental entities performing these evaluations based on the fee amount and the number performed. An official with the Capital Area Human Services District indicated that the District's fee for performing these evaluations is \$120. However, an official with the 22nd Judicial District Court (Parishes of St. Tammany and Washington) indicated that the cost of these evaluations statewide range from \$800 to \$1,500. We were unable to determine the number of evaluations that would be required as a result of this bill despite contacting several governmental entities and associations. We were informed that Medicaid may pay for evaluations performed on indigent subjects.

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}

*Michael G. Battle*  
**Michael G. Battle**  
**Manager, Advisory Services**



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**CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:**  
**Local Law Enforcement (continued expenditure explanation)**

Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office - An official indicated that the impact of the bill is indeterminable. However, if caseload increases significantly, the Sheriff may need to hire an additional investigator at a cost of \$60,000 annually for salary and benefits.

St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office - An official indicated that that the Sheriff would need to make changes to departmental policies and software. However, the cost of these changes could not be determined.

**Judicial District Court**

22nd Judicial District Court (Parishes of St. Tammany & Washington) - An official indicated that this bill will not impact the expenditures of the court as the additional caseload would be handled by existing resources.

**Mental Health Evaluation Information**

Capital Area Human Services District - An official indicated that the District's expenditures would not be impacted due to this bill, as they would absorb additional evaluations. However, this official indicated that Medicaid may pay for these mental health evaluations (increasing federal and state expenditure matches). The official did not know how many evaluations would result from this bill.

Caddo Parish Coroner - An official indicated that hospitals may perform the mental health evaluations required by this bill. While the cost of the evaluation is the patient's responsibility and may be paid by the patient's insurance, Medicaid may pay for these evaluations if the patient is indigent.

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**Manager, Advisory Services**