



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: HB 116 HLS 20RS 238
Bill Text Version: REENGROSSED
Opp. Chamb. Action:
Proposed Amd.:
Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 17, 2020 12:18 PM Author: COX
Dept./Agy.: Natchitoches City Marshal; City of Natchitoches
Subject: Marshal's Fees for Civil Matters Analyst: Steven Kraemer

COURTS/COURT COSTS RE SEE FISC NOTE LF RV Page 1 of 1
Provides relative to the use of court costs and fees for services by constables and marshals

Purpose of the Bill: This bill increases the maximum fee for services provided by the Natchitoches City Marshal's office (Marshal) from \$20 to \$30 for each service rendered in civil matters. In addition, this bill redirects these fees, which are currently going to the City of Natchitoches (City), into the Marshal's training and equipment fund to be used by the Marshal to purchase or upgrade equipment and to provide officer training. Also, this bill provides that these funds be subject to and included in the Marshal's annual audit.

In addition, this bill provides that the proposed fees shall not be collected without Judicial Council approval. The impact of this bill, including the timing of the impact, is contingent upon this approval.

Table with 7 columns: EXPENDITURES, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25, 5 -YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total.

Table with 7 columns: REVENUES, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25, 5 -YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total.

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

This bill may increase local government expenditures of the Marshal as money is spent on equipment and training.

This bill provides that the funds collected from these fees are to be deposited into the Marshal's training and equipment fund to be used for purchasing or updating equipment and officer training. This bill may increase Marshal expenditures as money is spent in accordance with the bill.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

This bill will redirect current fee revenue collections from the City to the Marshal and may generate an additional \$7,500 annually in local fund revenues.

Based on information obtained from Natchitoches officials, the City currently receives the revenue generated from existing fees (\$16,500 annually), but would not receive this revenue under the bill. The Marshal would now receive revenue resulting from these fees to be deposited in the Marshal's training and equipment fund.

We obtained 2018 and 2019 data about the Marshal's fees from the Natchitoches City Court. Based on this information, it appears that existing fees generate approximately \$16,500 annually on approximately 800 services per year. This bill provides for a \$30 fee for these services, which would generate approximately \$24,000 annually (800 services x \$30). Therefore, local government revenues could increase by approximately \$7,500 (\$24,000 - \$16,500 = \$7,500).

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
Manager, Advisory Services