

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE**  
**Fiscal Note**



Fiscal Note On: **SB 93** SLS 21RS 257

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> April 19, 2021	11:04 AM	<b>Author:</b> POPE
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> LDH/Louisiana State Board of Hearing Aid Dealers		<b>Analyst:</b> Shane Francis
<b>Subject:</b>		

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

OR NO IMPACT See Note

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Provides relative to telehealth services provided by licensed hearing aid dealers. (8/1/21)

Present law provides for the Louisiana Telehealth Access Act which authorizes professional or occupational licensing boards to promulgate rules necessary to provide for, promote, and regulate the use of telehealth in the delivery of services and within the scope of practice of the individual health care providers under their jurisdiction. Proposed law retains present law and adds licensed hearing aid dealers to the definition of health care provider included in the Louisiana Telehealth Access Act. Present law provides for powers and duties of the Louisiana Board for Hearing Aid Dealers. Proposed law retains present law and adds reference to the board's authority to promulgate rules for the provision of telehealth services in accordance with the Louisiana Telehealth Access Act.

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

  

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
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Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental expenditures as a result of this measure.

Proposed legislation adds licensed hearing aid dealers to the definition of health care providers within the bounds of the Louisiana Telehealth Access Act. This permits licensed hearing aid dealers to perform their allowed scope of services remotely, using the same standard of care as if services were provided in person.

The Louisiana Board of Hearing Aid Dealers expects no impact to state expenditures as a result of proposed legislation, and proposed legislation is unlikely to influence expenditures pertaining to state health care programs such as Medicaid or state employee and retiree health benefits. While new designation of licensed hearing aid dealers as health care providers under the Louisiana Telehealth Access Act may increase patients' ease-of-access to services, market fundamentals for these services remain unchanged; proposed legislation is not anticipated to increase the supply of licensed hearing aid dealers nor the patient demand for such services so long as the same standard of care as in-person services is maintained. Anticipated long-term market impacts are indeterminate but likely nominal.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

Senate  
 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}

*Alan M. Boxberger*  
**Alan M. Boxberger**  
**Staff Director**