



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **SB 414** SLS 22RS 783
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 19, 2022	6:26 PM	Author: MILLS, FRED
Dept./Agy.: Statewide		
Subject: Watershed Management Council		Analyst: Kimberly Fruge

WATER MANAGEMENT EG INCREASE FF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Creates the Louisiana Watershed Initiative. (8/1/22)

Proposed law creates the Watershed Management Council within the Division of Administration, Office of Planning and Budget to develop, implement, and manage the Louisiana Watershed Initiative which is a statewide, comprehensive watershed planning process, which fosters the collaboration management of flood risks by local, state, and regional governmental entities. The council is composed of 15 members. Proposed law prohibits members of the council from receiving any compensation however members can receive travel reimbursements. Proposed law provides for the powers and duties of the council, including creating, updating, and revising a statewide watershed plan, establishing temporary steering committees, approving permanent regional watershed coalitions, allocating funds to those coalitions, and promulgating rules and regulations to implement the watershed initiative. Proposed law provides that regional watershed coalitions are political subdivisions of the state. Proposed law provides for the duties and powers of regional watershed coalitions. Proposed law repeals present law that creates the Floodplain Evaluation and Management Commission.

EXPENDITURES	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Local Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may result in a potentially significant increase in state expenditures, should funds become available, for the administration and implementation of the the statewide watershed plan through the Watershed Management Council and regional watershed coalitions. According to committee testimony, funding will likely come from federal grants as there are already identified sources of funding available for this purpose. Proposed law creates the Watershed Management Council within the Division of Administration, Office of Planning and Budget. In addition, proposed law gives the Watershed Management Council the authority to approve permanent regional watershed coalitions which shall constitute a political subdivision of the state.

Under proposed law, if sufficient funds become available through legislative appropriation, federal grants, or interagency transfer agreements, the council may employ staff for the efficient administration of the council. To the extent such funding is available, expenditures within the Division of Administration are anticipated to increase by an indeterminable, but potentially significant, amount for administration of the council.

Under proposed law, if sufficient funds become available through legislative appropriation, federal grants, or other public and private sources the council may allocate those funds to regional watershed coalitions that can be used to implement the goals and objectives of the statewide watershed plan. To the extent the council allocates funding to the regional watershed coalitions, expenditures out of local funds are anticipated to increase by an indeterminable, but potentially significant, amount.

In addition, proposed law is anticipated to result in an indeterminable, but minimal, increase in state expenditures associated with travel reimbursements. The 15 members of the council shall serve without compensation; however, the council members may receive travel reimbursements from their respective agencies in accordance with the agency's travel reimbursement guidelines. This fiscal note assumes that the Division of Administration will provide administrative support to the council. While there may be costs associated with travel reimbursements and administration support of the council, these costs are expected to be minimal and absorbed within the respective agency's existing operating budget.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

<u>Senate</u>	<u>Dual Referral Rules</u>	<u>House</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}		<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
<input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}		<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Evan Brasseaux

Evan Brasseaux
 Interim Deputy Fiscal Officer