



**OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR  
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **HB 540** HLS 23RS 758  
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> April 11, 2023	5:02 PM	<b>Author:</b> MIGUEZ
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Port Districts		<b>Analyst:</b> Jamie Mergist
<b>Subject:</b> Port and Harbor Police		

PORTS/HARBORS/TERMINALS OR INCREASE LF EX See Note Page 1 of 1  
 Establishes a port and harbor police force for ports meeting certain requirements

**Purpose of Bill:** This bill authorizes port districts in parishes with a population of 57,000 to 57,400 (only Vermilion Parish meets this criteria) or 68,000 to 73,000 (only Iberia Parish meets this criteria) to establish a port and harbor police force. These police officers will have law enforcement powers similar to those of sheriffs, including the power of arrest.

Currently, only three port districts meet the criteria established in this bill: the Twin Parish Port Commission, the Port of Iberia District, and the Abbeville Harbor and Terminal District.

EXPENDITURES	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>	<u>2027-28</u>	<u>5 -YEAR TOTAL</u>
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	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
<b>Annual Total</b>						

  

REVENUES	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>	<u>2027-28</u>	<u>5 -YEAR TOTAL</u>
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Local Funds	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
<b>Annual Total</b>						

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

**This bill may increase local government expenditures for the Twin Parish Port Commission by \$50,000 annually.**

We obtained information about the potential impact of this bill on the three ports to which it applies:

**Twin Parish Port Commission:** An official with the Twin Parish Port District informed us that district expenditures may increase by approximately \$50,000 annually to hire an officer.

**Port of Iberia District:** An official with the Port of Iberia District informed us that the port has no intention of establishing a police force as the Iberia Parish Sheriff's Office currently serves that function for the district.

**Abbeville Harbor and Terminal District:** An official with the Abbeville Harbor and Terminal District informed us that the port has no intention of establishing a police force due to cost and liability exposure. In addition, this official indicated that the port is already authorized to have a police force through its enabling legislation.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

**This bill may increase local government revenues by an indeterminate amount.**

An official with the Twin Parish Port District indicated that Twin Parish Port District revenues could increase by approximately \$15,000-\$20,000 because the police force will assist the District in better enforcing the District's existing ordinances/fees (e.g. public boat launch fees).

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}

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