

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



Fiscal Note On: **SB 5** SLS 242ES 14  
 Bill Text Version: **ENROLLED**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> February 29, 2024 3:44 PM	<b>Author:</b> MCMATH
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Corrections	
<b>Subject:</b> Parole Proceedings and Revocation of Parole	<b>Analyst:</b> Daniel Druilhet

PROBATION/PAROLE EN INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 2  
 Provides for parole proceedings and revocation of parole in certain cases. (8/1/24) (Item #4)

Current law provides that the Committee on Parole may grant parole with 2/3 votes of a 3-member panel, or if the number exceeds a 3-member panel, a majority vote of those present; requires the Committee on Parole to notify the district attorney (DA) of the parish where a conviction occurred, the victim, or the spouse/next of kin of a deceased victim, of the date scheduled for a parole hearing 60 days prior to the hearing date; mandates that the DA be allowed to review the record of the offender seeking parole; mandates that the DA be allowed to present testimony to the Committee on Parole; mandates the Committee on Parole not consider a parole hearing of any person convicted of a crime of violence, a sex offense considered a crime of violence, or manslaughter until at least 4 years after parole denial. Proposed law requires a unanimous vote of the Committee on Parole to grant parole; only allows parole consideration if an offender has not committed any major disciplinary offenses for 36 consecutive months prior to his parole eligibility date; mandates that the Committee on Parole also notify the attorney general (AG) at least 90 days prior to a parole hearing, and that he be allowed to review the defendant's record and provide testimony at the parole hearing; mandates that a parole hearing be scheduled in the order in which parole applications are filed; mandates the release date be set by the Committee on Parole, and that it is subject to modification if deemed appropriate; nullifies any order noncompliant with notice requirements; mandates that as of 8/01/24, the Committee on Parole not consider a parole rehearing for first offense convictions of 55/60 crimes of violence.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>

**Annual Total**

REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	<b>DECREASE</b>	<b>DECREASE</b>	<b>DECREASE</b>	<b>DECREASE</b>	<b>DECREASE</b>	
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>

**Annual Total**

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law will likely result in an indeterminable increase in SGF expenditures in the Department of Public Safety and Corrections - Corrections Services (DPS&C-CS), to the extent that inmates are denied parole by not receiving a 2/3 affirmative vote of the Committee on Parole. Proposed law will remove the ability of inmates to receive a 2/3 affirmative vote of the Committee on Parole (and require granting of parole to occur with a unanimous vote), which will result in a smaller number of inmates granted parole who would be subject to longer stays of incarceration. Proposed law will also grant the Committee on Parole the discretion to modify, alter, or rescind any order granting parole for any reason the committee deems appropriate, which may result in offenders previously granted parole being returned to incarceration. Proposed law also will extend the parole eligibility stipulation requiring an offender to not have committed any major disciplinary offenses in the 12 consecutive months prior to his parole eligibility date to 36 consecutive months prior to his parole eligibility date. The exact fiscal impact to DPS&C-CS is indeterminable because there is no way to determine how many prisoners previously eligible for parole with a 2/3 affirmative vote of the Committee on Parole would be ineligible in the future, the varying lengths of time to which those granted parole would be required to serve, the number of disciplinary offenses and the timeframe in which they will occur for each inmate housed, or the number of decisions previously granting parole that will be modified, rescinded, or altered in the future.

SGF expenditures will increase by \$107.60 per offender per day to the extent that an offender is convicted and then housed in a state facility or \$26.39 per offender per day for an offender housed in a local facility. An offender sentenced to the custody of the DPSC - CS for one year would increase expenditures by \$39,274 (\$107.60 per day x 365 days) if housed in a state facility and \$9,632.35 (\$26.39 per day x 365 days) if housed in a local facility.

*For informational purposes, DPS&C-CS advised that on average, for the last two years, an average of 20 inmates (15 in 2022 and 25 in 2023) have been granted parole by an affirmative 2/3 vote of the Committee on Parole, and an average of 409 inmates (456 in 2022 and 362 in 2023) have been granted parole by a unanimous vote of the Committee on Parole.*

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

There will be an indeterminable decrease in self-generated revenue to DPS&C - Probation and Parole to the extent any offender is required to serve a longer sentence pursuant to proposed law. The current daily parole supervision rate for adult offenders is \$5.43 per day, which would result in an annual loss of \$1,981.95 (\$5.43 x 365) in parole supervision SGR for each adult offender.

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}

**Patrice Thomas**  
 Deputy Fiscal Officer



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CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1]

In public testimony during the 2024 2nd ES, Corrections Services testified that impacts on offender populations are anticipated to impact the number of offenders held in local facilities. Corrections Services reports that in managing its offender population, it seeks to fill all beds in state facilities first, then assigns overflow offenders to local facilities.

Considering the number of inmates granted parole for the last two years with a 2/3 affirmative vote of the Committee on Parole, if proposed law was enacted, an average of 20 inmates would be denied parole due to not receiving unanimous votes from the Committee on Parole, extending their periods of incarceration.

The LFO is working with the DPS&C-CS to get information on the number of major disciplinary offenses sustained by inmates between 12 and 36 months relative to the number of inmates that become parole eligible under current law. This information will be provided once it becomes available.

Attorney General and Local District Attorneys

Proposed law may result in an increase in SGF expenditures in the Louisiana Department of Justice (Attorney General) and local district attorneys, to the extent that they participate in parole hearings with the Committee on Parole by providing testimony and submitting information during the proceedings. To the extent that the Louisiana Department of Justice participates in parole hearings, there may be an increase in workload, requiring the agency to secure additional staff. The LFO is working with the Louisiana Department of Justice to determine if whether the agency can absorb the additional workload using existing staff and resources.

Department of Public Safety & Corrections - Corrections Services

Proposed law may result in a decrease in SGF expenditures in the Department of Public Safety & Corrections - Probation and Parole, to the extent that the time period for parole rehearings available to offenders sentenced for crimes of violence and sex offenses is extended from four years after the denial of parole to five years after the denial of parole, and prohibits the Committee on Parole from considering parole rehearings for any inmate serving a sentence for a first offense conviction of 55 of the 60 crimes listed as crimes of violence. To the extent that offenders convicted of crimes of violence and sex offenders are required to be housed in state or local corrections facilities at DPS&C-CS for an additional year before being eligible for a rehearing, or the Committee on Parole is prohibited from considering parole rehearings for any inmate serving a sentence for a first offense conviction of 55 of the 60 crimes listed as crimes of violence, the number of annual rehearings conducted by the Committee on Parole is subject to decrease.

The LFO is working with the Department of Public Safety & Corrections to determine costs associated with conducting parole rehearings, the number of inmates incarcerated for convictions of first offenses included within the list of 55 of the 60 crimes of violence included within the proposed law, and the annual number of parole rehearings that are conducted annually under current law. Conversely, for any additional year that an inmate is housed in state or local facilities with the Department of Public Safety & Corrections - Corrections Services, DPS&C-CS will sustain expenditures of \$39,274 (\$107.60 per inmate per day x 365 days) for inmates housed in a state facility and \$9,632.35 (\$26.39 per inmate per day x 365 days) for inmates housed in local facilities. In public testimony during the 2024 2nd ES, Corrections Services testified that impacts on offender populations are anticipated to impact the number of offenders held in local facilities. Corrections Services reports that in managing its offender population, it seeks to fill all beds in state facilities first, then assigns overflow offenders to local facilities.

Proposed law will likely result in a marginal increase in SGF expenditures in the Department of Public Safety & Corrections - Probation and Parole, to the extent that the Committee on Parole complies with requirements to provide notice to the district attorney of the parish wherein the conviction occurred and the attorney general of the hearing 90 days prior to the hearing date and the requirement to ensure that all parole hearings are conducted in compliance with notification requirements. The LFO presumes marginal costs associated with this notice requirement, as the proposed law requires notice, in writing, which can be accomplished either via regular or certified mail. The LFO presumes, also, that the requirement that the Committee on Parole ensure compliance with all notice requirements can be absorbed using existing staff and resources within Probation and Parole.

Senate Dual Referral Rules
[X] 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
[ ] 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
[X] 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 Patrice Thomas
Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer