



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE  
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 386** HLS 25RS 424

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.: **w/ PROP HSE COMM AMD**

Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> May 18, 2025	5:35 PM	<b>Author:</b> CREWS
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Office of Financial Institutions		
<b>Subject:</b> Gold and Silver as Currency		<b>Analyst:</b> Kimberly Fruge

BANKS/BANKING

OR INCREASE SG EX See Note

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Establishes gold and silver as currency

Current law provides that gold or silver coins are recognized as legal tender in the state of Louisiana. Proposed law adds gold-linked debit instruments to the list of legal tender; provides that individuals or entities may use gold or silver coins, specie, bullion, or gold-linked debit instruments by physical delivery, electronic means, or written instruction, subject to applicable Louisiana state money transmitter regulations.

EXPENDITURES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total						

REVENUES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total						

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law will result in a significant increase in SGR expenditures for the Office of Financial Institutions (OFI). The measure requires transactions using gold or silver, or gold-linked debit instruments be subject to Louisiana state money transmitter regulations. The Office of Financial indicates businesses that provides a means to use gold or silver as currency, such as a gold-linked debit card, would be required to obtain a Sale of Check and Money Transmitter licenses. The agency anticipates needing two (2) additional Compliance Examiners, one (1) Licensing Analyst, and a part-time Review Examiner. A breakdown of costs is presented in the table below.

	Positions	Salary	Related Benefits	Equipment	Total
Compliance Examiner	2	\$40,144	\$26,030	\$2,000	\$136,348
License Analyst	1	\$35,065	\$24,267	\$2,000	\$61,332
Review Examiner	0.5	\$30,139	\$16,512	\$1,000	\$47,651
Total					\$245,335

The LFO cannot corroborate the anticipated workload increase predicted by the agency. To the extent the number of entities seeking a license is significantly less than what is currently anticipated, the workload may be absorbable, either wholly or partially, using existing staff and resources or may be achievable with fewer than 3.5 positions.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Proposed law will likely result in an increase in SGR revenues for the Office of Financial Institutions (OFI) as a result of an increase in the number of entities applying for a Sale of Check and Money Transmitter license. The fiscal impact will depend on the number of new applications and renewals each year. OFI provides the following estimation, based on the current number of entities who offer this type of service and the project growth of the industry. To the extent the number of entities applying is significantly different than what is estimated here, revenues will increase or decrease accordingly.

	New Applicants	Fee	Renewals	Fee	Examination Hours	Fee	Total
FY 26	5	\$800	5	\$600	0	\$50	\$7,000
FY 27	5	\$800	10	\$600	300	\$50	\$25,000
FY 28	5	\$800	15	\$600	300	\$50	\$28,000
FY 29	5	\$800	20	\$600	300	\$50	\$31,000
FY 30	5	\$800	25	\$600	300	\$50	\$34,000

Senate

Dual Referral Rules

House

- ☒ 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
- ☐ 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
- ☐ 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}
- ☐ 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Patrice Thomas  
Deputy Fiscal Officer