

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 344** HLS 26RS 190

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 4, 2026	11:59 AM	Author: COATES
Dept./Agy.: Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry		Analyst: Richie Anderson
Subject: Grain and Cotton Indemnity Fund		

AGRICULTURE/GRAIN OR NO IMPACT See Note
Provides relative to the Grain and Cotton Indemnity Fund

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Present law requires funds in the Grain and Cotton Indemnity Fund not spent or encumbered at the end of each fiscal year be transferred to the LA Agriculture Finance Authority (LAFA). Present law directs the Louisiana Agricultural Commodities Commission to suspend assessments when the balance of LAFA reaches \$12 M and resume once LAFA falls below \$10 M. Proposed law raises these trigger thresholds, increasing the suspension trigger from \$12 M to \$25 M and the resumption trigger from \$10 M to \$22 M.

Effective upon the governor's signature.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

REVENUES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental expenditures as a result of this measure. Proposed law increases the suspension and resumption triggers for balances transferred from the Grain and Cotton Indemnity Fund to the Louisiana Agriculture Finance Authority (LAFA). This will allow LAFA to accumulate a larger balance before a suspension of assessments occurs. The department reports that the suspension trigger of \$12 M has not been met since the inception of the fund.

For information purposes, the end-of-year balances in the Grain and Cotton Indemnity Fund for the last three fiscal years and the current balance are listed below.

Year	Fund Balance
FY 23:	\$5,957,010
FY 24:	\$6,812,241
FY 25:	\$7,673,815
FY 26:	\$2,922,352*

*Note: Current balance is as of 3/2/26.

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}


Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer