

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 274** HLS 26RS 492

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 6, 2026	6:30 PM	Author: FREIBERG
Dept./Agy.: Higher Education		Analyst: Tanesha Morgan
Subject: M.J. Foster Promise Program		

HIGHER EDUCATION

OR INCREASE SD EX See Note

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Provides relative to initial eligibility requirements for the M.J. Foster Promise Program

Present law provides that people with any conviction for a crime of violence are ineligible for the M.J. Foster Promise Program. Proposed law creates an exception allowing eligibility for applicants convicted of crimes listed in R.S. 13:5401(B)(1)(f), EXCEPT for those convicted of battery of a police officer, aggravated assault with a firearm, simple kidnapping, or certain crimes. Applicants with convictions for other crimes of violence not listed in R.S. 13:5401(B)(1)(f) would remain ineligible for the program.

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	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total						
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

Under the proposed law, for every 37 additional students who qualify for the M.J. Foster Promise Program, there would be a \$100,000 annual increase in Statutory Dedication expenditures out of the M.J. Foster Promise Program Fund. The LFO cannot determine the total impact because it is not known how many additional students will qualify for the scholarship under the expanded eligibility criteria under this measure.

Proposed law expands eligibility for the M.J. Foster Promise Program by allowing people with certain criminal convictions to participate in the program. The average M.J. Foster Promise Program award amount is approximately \$2,738 per student per year. For informational purposes, \$10.5 M is the FY 26 budget and is expected to be expended by the end of the fiscal year. The FY 27 budget includes \$25 M for this program.

Note: Deposits into the M.J. Foster Promise Program Fund are from any source, including private business, industry, foundations, and other groups, as well as any available federal or other governmental funding. State appropriations for the program shall not exceed \$40 million per year for students enrolled in public postsecondary education institutions and proprietary schools.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

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