

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 611** HLS 26RS 1020
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 6, 2026 11:42 AM	Author: FREEMAN
Dept./Agy.: Louisiana Department of Health	
Subject: Pregnancy-related service centers	Analyst: Anthony Shamis

HEALTH/WOMEN'S OR +\$643,678 GF EX See Note Page 1 of 2
 Provides relative to pregnancy-related service centers

Proposed law creates the Pregnancy Help Center Healthcare Licensing Act. Proposed law states that the purpose of this legislation is for the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to promulgate and publish rules and regulations for the licensure of pregnancy help centers to increasingly provide services that involve medical screening, diagnostics, or counseling. Proposed law requires any pregnancy help center that provides healthcare services to be licensed by LDH. Pregnancy help centers that provide only non-medical services, such as peer counseling, material assistance, education, or religious counseling are not subject to licensure. Proposed law authorizes LDH to conduct inspections and investigate complaints alleging violations. Proposed law authorizes LDH to deny, suspend, or revoke licensure for violations, and assess civil penalties, not to exceed \$5,000 per violation per day on pregnancy health centers that knowingly provide healthcare services without a license. Proposed law does not require pregnancy help centers to provide or refer for abortion services, regulate religious doctrine, prayer, or counseling unrelated to healthcare service, or limit speech or advocacy not connected to the provision of healthcare. Proposed law provides for a six-month transition period from the effective date of this legislation for pregnancy help centers to apply for licensure. Proposed law provides for severability.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$643,678	\$797,988	\$779,238	\$779,238	\$779,238	\$3,779,380
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	\$643,678	\$797,988	\$779,238	\$779,238	\$779,238	\$3,779,380
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.	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 is anticipated to increase SGF expenditures by \$643,678 in FY 27 for the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), Health Standards Section (HSS). This amount includes \$556,363 for the addition of five (5) T.O. positions for nine months, \$26,625 in associated operating expenses, and \$4,440 for equipment to support licensing, renewal, and oversight activities. It also includes \$56,250 for a professional services contract to implement technology enhancements to the Provider Online Process System (POPS).

Personnel Costs (\$556,363 SGF):

HSS reports that salary and related benefits for the addition of five (5) T.O. positions for nine months in FY 27 will total \$556,363, or \$61,818.11 per month, including \$354,992 for salaries and \$201,371 for related benefits. Four (4) Medical Certification Specialist 2 T.O. positions will review additional policies and procedures, conduct initial licensing surveys, complaint investigations, and follow-up surveys to determine compliance with licensing and regulatory requirements for pregnancy help centers providing healthcare services. One (1) Medical Certification Program Manager T.O. position will manage workload and responsibilities associated with licensing, renewals, and oversight of pregnancy help centers. The cost of these positions for 12 months, beginning in FY 28, is \$741,817, calculated as \$61,818.11 per month multiplied by 12 months ($\$61,818.11 \times 12 = \$741,817$).

Operating Expenses (\$26,625 SGF):

Operating expenses include \$24,750 for travel and \$1,875 for supplies for nine months in FY 27, totaling \$26,625, or \$2,958.33 per month. Total operating expenses annualized for 12 months, beginning in FY 28, are \$35,500, calculated as \$2,958.33 per month multiplied by 12 months ($\$2,958.33 \times 12 = \$35,500$).

Professional Services (\$56,250 SGF):

HSS indicates the need for \$56,250 for a professional services contract with Alpine Technology to implement enhancements to POPS, which is used to manage and track licensing-related activities. This amount covers nine months in FY 27, or \$6,250 per month ($\$6,250 \times 9 = \$56,250$). The annualized amount for three months in FY 28 is \$18,750 ($\$6,250 \times 3 = \$18,750$).

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Proposed law is anticipated to increase SGR revenue collections by an indeterminable amount associated with civil penalties of up to \$5,000 per violation per day. In addition, the measure authorizes the Attorney General to bring an action to enforce its provisions. The amount is indeterminable because the number of licensing violations, the severity of fines, the duration of violations, and the extent of enforcement actions that may be pursued cannot be estimated.

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}

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CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:

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EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Equipment Costs (\$4,440):

Equipment costs in FY 27 include \$1,440 for computer leases (5 T.O. × \$32 per month × 9 months), \$200 for five hard case protectors, \$1,600 for four mobile scanners, and \$1,200 for four mobile phones and service. Beginning in FY 28, the only equipment costs are \$1,920 for computer leases, calculated as 5 T.O. × \$384 per year.

Note: The LFO is unable to corroborate the estimated staffing level, operating expenses, professional services, and equipment costs projected by LDH. The LFO has requested LDH to provide detailed information on the assumptions and rationale used to estimate the additional T.O. position needed to implement the requirements of this legislation. To the extent the required staffing levels may be lower or higher, corresponding operating costs would shift accordingly. To the extent that a portion or all of the prescribed duties can be absorbed by existing staff and resources, a portion of the projected costs may be mitigated. Should additional information regarding estimated expenditures become available, this fiscal note will be updated.

EXPENDITURES

	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
Position					
Med. Cert. Specialist 2 (4 T.O.)	\$433,671	\$578,228	\$578,228	\$578,228	\$578,228
Med. Cert. Program Mgr. (1 T.O.)	\$122,692	\$163,590	\$163,590	\$163,590	\$163,590
Operating Expenses	\$26,625	\$35,500	\$35,500	\$35,500	\$35,500
Professional Services	\$56,250	\$18,750	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$4,440	\$1,920	\$1,920	\$1,920	\$1,920
Total Expenditures	\$643,678	\$797,988	\$779,238	\$779,238	\$779,238
T.O.	5	5	5	5	5

Senate Dual Referral Rules
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
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