

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 1201** HLS 26RS 2455
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 23, 2026	5:13 PM	Author: ILLG
Dept./Agy.: Elected Officials		
Subject: Compensation of elected officials		Analyst: Julie Silva

ELECTED OFFICIALS/COMP EG INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 2
 Provides with respect to the compensation of statewide elected officials and legislators

Proposed legislation provides for the compensation of the governor and other statewide elected officials to be set as a percentage of the average salary of the presidents of each public postsecondary education system and provides for a housing and vehicle allowance for statewide elected officials other than the governor.

Proposed legislation further authorizes members of the legislature to receive per diem and mileage reimbursement for up to ten days per month for days engaged in official legislative business, but not in attendance on the body. Proposed legislation otherwise retains present law provisions relative to legislative salary, per diem during session, and mileage reimbursement.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	\$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

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

Proposed legislation is expected to increase SGF expenditures significantly beginning in FY 28. Due to the number of variables involved, an exact estimate is indeterminable; however, based on currently available data and assumptions, costs are estimated at approximately \$3 M annually. The estimate includes approximately \$550,538 attributable to changes in compensation for statewide elected officials and \$2.4 M for increased per diem payments to legislators. These figures are intended as a general approximation rather than a fixed or definitive total and will vary depending on actual implementation and utilization.

Proposed legislation replaces fixed statutory salaries for statewide elected officials with a formula under which compensation is based on the average base salaries of the four public postsecondary education system presidents. Based on the current average salary of \$520,250, the governor's salary would increase by \$52,088, from \$130,000 to \$182,088, reflecting a rate equal to 35% of that average. Salaries for the lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general, state treasurer, commissioner of agriculture and forestry, and commissioner of insurance would each increase by \$41,075, as compensation is set at 30% of the same benchmark. In addition, each of these six officials would receive a \$12,000 annual vehicle allowance and a \$30,000 annual housing allowance. These allowances would result in an additional annual cost of \$252,000, bringing the total annual increase in compensation for these six officials to \$498,450.

Proposed legislation is also expected to increase SGF expenditures for the legislature due to expanded per diem eligibility, estimated at up to approximately \$2.4 M annually resulting from increased per diem payments to legislators for up to 95 days per year for days engaged in official legislative business but not in attendance on the body. The per diem estimate assumes full utilization of the allowable days outside of a regular legislative session (estimated to total up to 95 days annually per legislator) and excludes potential additional, variable costs such as travel reimbursements. To the extent utilization is lower, costs may decrease; conversely, inclusion of additional reimbursable expenses, such as travel, may increase total expenditures. The bill also modifies compensation provisions for the speaker of the House and the president of the Senate by removing their current authority to receive unlimited per diem for days spent conducting official business at the state capitol and instead subjecting them to the same per diem and mileage limitations applicable to other members. These changes may partially offset increased costs but are not expected to be significant relative to the overall increase in expenditures.

Note: The estimates provided in this note are based on available data and reflect only those costs that can be reasonably quantified at this time, as shown on page two of this fiscal note. These figures do not represent a maximum potential cost and are intended for illustrative purposes only, as certain variables like travel reimbursements and future changes in compensation benchmarks cannot be projected.

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REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

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:

Statewide Elected Officials Data:

Current Louisiana University System President Salaries

System	Base Salary
LSU	\$750,000
SU	\$409,000
ULS	\$522,000
LCTCS	\$400,000
Average	\$520,250

35% of Average: \$182,088
30% of Average: \$156,075

	Present Salary	Proposed Salary	Annual Increase	Vehicle Allowance	Housing Allowance	Total Increase
Governor	\$130,000	\$182,088	\$52,088	n/a	n/a	\$52,088
Lt. Governor	\$115,000	\$156,075	\$41,075	\$12,000	\$30,000	\$83,075
Secretary of State	\$115,000	\$156,075	\$41,075	\$12,000	\$30,000	\$83,075
Attorney General	\$115,000	\$156,075	\$41,075	\$12,000	\$30,000	\$83,075
Treasurer	\$115,000	\$156,075	\$41,075	\$12,000	\$30,000	\$83,075
Commissioner of Agriculture	\$115,000	\$156,075	\$41,075	\$12,000	\$30,000	\$83,075
Commissioner of Insurance	\$115,000	\$156,075	\$41,075	\$12,000	\$30,000	\$83,075
Total Annual Cost	\$820,000	\$1,118,538	\$298,538	\$72,000	\$180,000	\$550,538

Legislative Data:

Current Legislative Per Diem: \$178
 144 legislators x 95 qualifying days per year x \$178 per diem = \$2,435,040

Current Mileage Reimbursement Rate: \$0.725

Senate Dual Referral Rules
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 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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