



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

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

Date: May 6, 2026	10:21 AM	Author: ILLG
Dept./Agy.: Elected Officials		
Subject: Compensation of elected officials		Analyst: Julie Silva

ELECTED OFFICIALS/COMP RE 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 further permits reimbursement for all legislators for expenses related to maintaining a residence in Baton Rouge, not to exceed \$1,000 per month per member. 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 multiple variables, an exact estimate is indeterminable; however, based on current data and assumptions, costs are estimated at approximately \$4.7 M annually. This includes approximately \$550,538 attributable to changes in compensation for statewide elected officials, \$2.4 M for increased per diem payments to legislators, and \$1.7 M for legislator residence reimbursements in Baton Rouge. These figures are intended as general approximations and will vary based on actual implementation and utilization.

Proposed legislation replaces fixed statutory salaries for statewide elected officials with a formula tied to the average base salaries of the four public postsecondary system presidents. Using the current average of \$520,250, the governor's salary would increase by \$52,088, from \$130,000 to \$182,088 (35% of the 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 (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, resulting in an additional \$252,000 annually and bringing the total increase for these six officials to \$498,450.

The legislation is also expected to increase SGF expenditures for the legislature due to expanded per diem eligibility, estimated at up to \$2.4 M annually. This assumes full utilization of up to 95 eligible days per legislator for official legislative business outside of session and excludes variable costs such as travel reimbursements. Lower utilization would reduce costs, while inclusion of additional reimbursable expenses could increase total expenditures. The bill also modifies compensation for the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate by removing their current authority to receive unlimited per diem for official business at the state capitol and subjecting them to the same limitations as other members. Any resulting savings are expected to be minimal relative to the overall increase.

Proposed legislation further provides reimbursement for all legislators for expenses related to maintaining a residence in Baton Rouge, not to exceed \$1,000 per month per member. Rates are to be set annually by the Legislative Budgetary Control Council. However, assuming full participation at the maximum allowed rate, annual costs could reach approximately \$1.7 M. Note: This estimate includes the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate, who are eligible for similar reimbursements under current law.

These estimates reflect only those costs that can be reasonably quantified at this time and are intended for illustrative purposes, as shown on page two of this fiscal note. They do not represent a maximum potential cost, and actual expenditures may vary due to factors such as travel reimbursements and future changes in compensation benchmarks.


Continued on page two.

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

Maximum Monthly Residence Reimbursement Rate Under Proposed Legislation: \$1,000
 144 legislators x 12 months per year x \$1,000 allowance = \$1,728,000

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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