

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **SB 265** SLS 11RS 622

Bill Text Version: **RE-REENGROSSED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Date: June 15, 2011 6:11 PM | Author: RISER |
| Dept./Agy.: Economic Development / Insurance | Analyst: Greg Albrecht |
| Subject: Premium Tax Credit For Investment In LEAD Funds | |

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RR -\$37,500,000 GF RV See Note Page 1 of 1
Provides relative to premium tax credits under the Louisiana Entrepreneurial Assistance and Development (LEAD) program. (8/15/11)

Provides premium tax credits for insurers that invest in (provide eligible capital to) LEAD Funds (Louisiana Entrepreneurial Assistance and Development Funds). The credit is 75% of the amount invested. Credits can be taken against liabilities over a four-year period (up to 25% of the credit amount per year), but can not exceed the premium tax liability for any particular year. Credits can not be taken until the 3rd year after the year when the investment in the LEAD Fund occurs, and can not be taken until after April 15, 2015. Credits are transferable among insurance companies, and unused credit amounts can be carried forward indefinitely. A maximum of \$200 million of eligible capital is allowed into the program, generating a total of \$150 million of premium tax credits. The Department of Economic Development (LED) administers the program; making eligible capital allocations to insurers and assuring compliance by participating LEAD Funds with respect to their operations and the investments they make in eligible businesses. LEAD Fund applicants are to pay a proportionate share of LED administrative costs, up to \$15,000 per year each. Various program reports are required, and audits are authorized.

| EXPENDITURES | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 5 -YEAR TOTAL |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| State Gen. Fd. | \$0 | \$0 | \$48,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$48,000 |
| Agy. Self-Gen. | \$86,000 | \$88,000 | \$91,000 | \$95,000 | \$99,000 | \$459,000 |
| 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 | \$86,000 | \$88,000 | \$139,000 | \$95,000 | \$99,000 | \$507,000 |

| REVENUES | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 5 -YEAR TOTAL |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| State Gen. Fd. | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | (\$37,500,000) | (\$37,500,000) | (\$75,000,000) |
| Agy. Self-Gen. | \$86,000 | \$88,000 | \$91,000 | \$95,000 | \$99,000 | \$459,000 |
| 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 | \$86,000 | \$88,000 | \$91,000 | (\$37,405,000) | (\$37,401,000) | (\$74,541,000) |

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The Department of Economic Development would have to administer the program, and reports the need for an additional staff person to carry out the activities necessary for the program. These activities include developing program rules and regulations, reviewing applications from LEAD funds for certification, allocating eligible capital and tax credits, approving LEAD fund investments in eligible businesses, insuring requirements for annual maintenance of certification and distributions are met, and providing program reporting. Payroll, operating expenses, and one-time equipping could be \$86,000 in FY12 (program must be functional by November 1, 2011), with projected 4% growth after that.

The bill contemplates annual pro-rata charges on program applicants to fund LED administrative costs. However, those charges are limited to \$15,000 per year per applicant. It would take 6 applicants to fully finance FY12 costs, and either more applicants in subsequent years or higher charges to cover costs in subsequent years. Thus, some LED costs may still require state general fund support.

The Department of Insurance indicated that it would need to incur some costs associated with reprogramming computer systems to insure proper tracking of the bill's premium tax credits. The Department reported one-time costs over \$48,000, but would not need to incur these costs until sometime in FY14.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

The bill allows \$200 million of capital from insurance companies into an investment program, where ultimately 3/4 of the capital is provided by the state general fund through premium tax credits. The realization of these tax credits is delayed until FY15 and then spread evenly over four years. Based on experience with a similar program that has been closed for a number of years (CAPCO), the program is likely to be fully subscribed shortly after LED begins accepting applications for certifying LEAD funds and allocations of capital and tax credits (no later than November 1, 2011 as required by the bill). Unused credit amounts can be carried forward indefinitely, but can also be transferred to other insurance companies with sufficient premium tax liabilities to exhaust the credits. Thus, each year's maximum annual exposure is depicted in the table above and is likely to be close to what actual realizations will be each year. Total premium tax revenue reductions resulting from this bill are \$150 million, with annual reductions of \$37.5 million in years FY15 - FY18.

The bill makes the availability of premium tax credits contingent upon written certification by the division of administration and the legislative fiscal office that the participating investments will achieve state revenue neutrality.

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| <u>Senate</u> | <u>Dual Referral Rules</u> | <u>House</u> | <i>Evan Brasseaux</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H} | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)1 >= \$500,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S} | Evan Brasseaux Staff Director |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)2 >= \$100,000 Annual SGF Cost {H&S} | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H} | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S} | |