



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: SB 124 SLS 13RS 295
Bill Text Version: ORIGINAL
Opp. Chamb. Action:
Proposed Amd.:
Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 8, 2013 5:18 PM
Author: MURRAY
Dept./Agy.: Criminal District Court of Orleans Parish
Subject: Increases Court Costs
Analyst: Steven Kraemer

COURTS OR INCREASE LF RV See Note Page 1 of 1
Increases certain fees and court costs levied by the Criminal District Court for the Parish of Orleans. (gov sig)

Purpose of Bill: This bill increases court costs to be imposed by the Criminal District Court of Orleans Parish from \$25 to \$100. This cost is to be imposed on any non-indigent defendant who pleads guilty or is convicted of an offense by the Court. In addition, this bill increases court costs that may be imposed on any defendant convicted of a misdemeanor (increased from \$250 to \$500) or a felony (increased from \$2,000 to \$2,500).

As required by state law, these additional court costs were reviewed by the Judicial Council, which provided a recommendation to the legislature.

Table with 7 columns: EXPENDITURES, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 5-YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total. All values are \$0.

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

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

REVENUE EXPLANATION

This bill may increase local fund revenues of the Criminal District Court of Orleans Parish by an indeterminable amount.

An official with the Criminal District Court of Orleans Parish indicated that the increase in court costs from \$25 to \$100 may increase Court revenues by approximately \$88,000 annually (based on 2012 collections of \$29,248).

Concerning the increase from \$2,000 to \$2,500 for felony convictions and \$250 to \$500 for misdemeanor convictions, we were able to obtain defendant conviction information from the Orleans Parish District Attorney's office. Based on the figures provided, the increase in misdemeanor and felony conviction court costs may increase revenue by approximately \$2,504,500. This is based on 4,668 defendants convicted of felonies in 2012 and 682 defendants convicted of misdemeanors in 2012 and assuming that the maximum court costs are imposed.

Therefore, this bill may increase the Court's revenue by approximately \$2,592,500 (\$88,000 + \$2,504,500).

It should be noted that court officials indicated that the maximum court cost for felony/misdemeanor defendants is rarely imposed.

- Senate Dual Referral Rules House
13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H} 6.8(F) >= \$500,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {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}

Joy Irwin
Director of Advisory Services