

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 153** HLS 13RS 365

Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 17, 2013 6:41 PM	Author: FOIL
Dept./Agy.: Revenue	Analyst: Greg Albrecht
Subject: Income Tax Checkoff - Cancer Research	

TAX RETURN EG NO IMPACT GF RV See Note Page 1 of 1
Expands the income tax checkoff applicable to prostate cancer to include all types of cancer

Current law allows donations of personal income tax refunds by checkoff to the Louisiana Cancer and Lung Trust Fund Board. to combat prostate cancer and research into a cure for the disease.

Proposed law expands the purposes of the checkoff to all cancer research as opposed to only prostate cancer.

EXPENDITURES	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	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	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

REVENUES	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	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	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

This bill may not add an additional checkoff since it only expands the purposes of an existing one. Adding an additional checkoff to the tax return, in isolation, involves relatively small costs associated with data processing modifications, accounting, and disbursing of any refunds donated. In addition, R.S. 47:120.37 authorizes a 20% fee from the donated amounts to defray these costs. Current law (R.S. 47:120.37(B)) also provides that existing checkoffs be removed from the tax return if they have not generated at least \$10,000 per year for two consecutive years.

If the Department of Revenue does not remove checkoffs from the form, then to accommodate additional checkoff options (this one and others contemplated) the Department will likely have to redesign the tax form. Additional costs depend on the redesign chosen (redesign entire form to fit more lines, add a new schedule/page for checkoffs, change to a code entry for each checkoff such as is done for credits), but all involve additional printing, system processing modifications, and taxpayer/preparer communication and support. The Department estimates one-time set up costs of staff time could be several thousand dollars from existing budget, depending on the number of checkoffs being accommodated and the amount of redesign necessary.


REVENUE EXPLANATION

There will be no effect on state tax collections since only refunds will be donated. The willingness of taxpayers to donate all or a portion of their tax refunds to any particular purpose can not be predicted. The amount of donations to any particular purpose is likely to be small.

For fiscal year 2012 (the latest year for which the department has information on checkoffs) the nine checkoffs reported for that year received donations from 14,781 returns out of 2.095 million total returns filed (0.7% of returns); total donations for all purposes were \$281,986; donations per checkoff purpose ranged from a high of \$98,350 (Military Family Assistance Fund) to a low of \$125 (LA Housing Trust Fund); and, the average donation per contributing return was \$19.08.

The return contained two checkoffs related to cancer; the La Cancer Trust Fund and the National Lung Cancer Fund. these two existing checkoffs together received \$41,282 from 2,928 returns.

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|---|----------------------------|--|
| <u>Senate</u> | <u>Dual Referral Rules</u> | <u>House</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H} | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F) >= \$500,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S} |
| <input 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} |


John D. Carpenter
Legislative Fiscal Officer