



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: HB 272 HLS 14RS 879
Bill Text Version: REENGROSSED
Opp. Chamb. Action:
Proposed Amd.:
Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 17, 2014 9:34 AM
Author: WILLIAMS, A
Dept./Agy.: Municipalities, Parishes, and Law Enforcement Entities
Subject: Firearms Buyback Programs
Analyst: Anthony Truong

WEAPONS/FIREARMS RE SEE FISC NOTE LF EX Page 1 of 1
Provides relative to firearms buyback programs for parishes and municipalities

Purpose of Bill: This bill authorizes any municipality or parish to institute a firearms buyback program. Funding for these programs shall be acquired from cash donations from private businesses, and may include funds from participating law enforcement agencies within the jurisdiction of the municipality or parish (no other public funds may be used).

This bill requires that the municipality or parish to promulgate rules regarding the programs, and also provides for departmental use or disposal of purchased firearms. The bill provides that departmental use may include the sale of firearms at a public auction. The proceeds from these auctions are to be used to pay for auctions costs with any surplus being used for law enforcement training or equipment.

Table with 7 columns: EXPENDITURES, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 5 -YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total.

Table with 7 columns: REVENUES, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 5 -YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total.

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The impact of this bill on governmental expenditures is indeterminable.

Based on information obtained from various local government entities (e.g., City of New Orleans) and associations (e.g., Louisiana Municipal Association), it appears that the statewide impact of this bill on governmental expenditures is indeterminable due to the bill's permissive language and a lack of information regarding the cost of operating firearms buyback programs in accordance with the bill.

For example, officials with several of the local government entities that we contacted (e.g., City of New Orleans) indicated that the bill would not impact their expenditures. In addition, an official with the City-Parish of East Baton Rouge stated the following regarding the bill: "In the past, the City of Baton Rouge, in partnership with the EBR District Attorney's Office and the EBR Sheriff's Office, has sponsored a gun buy-back program utilizing private donations and forfeited funds. Therefore, there would be no fiscal impact upon City-Parish expenditures from a continuation of the program. There would be a very small increase in revenues should the City opt to sell any of the forfeited guns."

However, in order to provide some information regarding the costs of these programs, we have obtained the following information about a few programs that have been conducted in recent years:

An official with the East Baton Rouge District Attorney's Office indicated that that District Attorney's Office conducted firearms buyback programs in 2010, 2011, and 2013 using both local governmental and private funds. According to this official, the cost of these programs were \$16,600 (262 firearms purchased), \$15,750 (226 firearms purchased), and \$4,150 (69 firearms purchased) respectively.

An official with the Metropolitan Crime Commission of New Orleans indicated that the Commission participates in some firearms buyback programs. This official indicated that such programs costs approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000 each. However, this official said that these programs were privately funded.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

The impact of this bill on governmental revenues is indeterminable.

This bill allows municipalities and parishes to institute a firearms buyback program. These programs are to be funded using private cash donations and funds from participating law enforcement agencies. The statewide impact of this bill on governmental revenues is indeterminable due to the bill's permissive language and a lack of information regarding the funding that would be obtained from private donations and auctions.

Senate Dual Referral Rules House
13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}
13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}
6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
6.8(F)(2) >= \$500,000 State Rev. Reduc. {H & S}
6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}
Joy Irwin
Director of Advisory Services