

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 142** HLS 14RS 588
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

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Dept./Agy.: Division of Administration (DOA)	Analyst: Travis McIlwain
Subject: Higher Education Financing Fund/10% Contracts Reduction	

PUBLIC CONTRACTS EG INCREASE SD RV See Note Page 1 of 1

Provides for a 10% reduction of all state professional, personal, and consulting service contracts and provides for deposit of the savings into the Higher Education Financing Fund

Proposed bill creates the Higher Education Financing Fund and provides for the state treasurer to transfer all cash balances identified and reported by the commissioner of administration as being from unexpended direct SGF appropriations for professional, personal and consulting service contracts remaining at the end of FY 15 into the Fund. Proposed bill provides for the commissioner of administration in consultation with the director of office of contractual review (OCR) to determine the amount of monies appropriated for such contracts that remain unexpended and make such determination in September, December, March and June. Proposed bill provides for OCR to submit a report at the end of each month to House Appropriations Committee summarizing each contract including dollar value. Proposed bill provides for the total dollar amount for professional, personal, and consulting contracts under the jurisdiction of the OCR for FY 15 to be reduced by no less than 10% of the total dollar amount in FY 14. Proposed bill requires the office of contractual review to submit reports on the status of the implementation of the proposed law to JLCB. Proposed bill provides for the commissioner of administration to report to the treasurer the amount of SGF monies appropriated for professional, personal and consulting service contracts that are expected to remain unexpended at the end of the FY. Effective July 1, 2014.

EXPENDITURES	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	DECREASE	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	DECREASE	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	DECREASE	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	DECREASE	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

REVENUES	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	INCREASE	\$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

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The proposed bill will result in an indeterminable decrease in overall state expenditures in FY 15 and would impose a cap on the total amount of professional, personal, and consulting services contracts approved by the Office of Contractual Review (OCR) in FY 15 to be at a minimum 10% less than the total value of contracts approved in FY 14. Complete and audited FY 14 contract data is not currently available. Pursuant to R.S. 39:1489, OCR is required to complete its annual report on the previous fiscal year in January of the following fiscal year. Based upon current law, the total value and number of professional, personal and consulting contracts for the current year (FY 14) would not be officially reported until January 2015 in the FY 14 OCR Annual Report.

For illustrative purposes, per the FY 13 OCR Annual Report, which was released in January 2014, OCR approved a total of 2,001 professional, personal and consulting services contracts with total contract value of approximately \$3.1 billion. To the extent this bill would have been enacted during the 2013 Regular Legislative Session, the projected 10% reduction in the value of OCR approved professional, personal and consulting services contracts for FY 14 would have equated to approximately \$305.8 million less, or an FY 14 cap of \$2.752 billion. The LFO cannot ascertain the various funding sources that would have been impacted by reducing the level of such contracts.

Therefore, it is likely that the \$305.8 million reduction in approved contracts would have impacted all means of financing, which is reflected in the expenditure table above. Thus, the LFO cannot ascertain the specific amount of unexpended SGF that would be available for transfer into the newly created Higher Education Financing Fund. Note: The FY 15 Executive Budget reduced professional services expenditures by approximately \$126.3 M from the FY 14 existing operating budget of which approximately \$15.6 M is SGF.

The proposed legislation also provides that if a professional, personal or consulting services contract was awarded through a line item appropriation in the General Appropriations Act and subsequently vetoed by the governor, the office of contractual review shall not approve such a vetoed contract without prior approval of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB). R.S. 39:1484 defines professional, personal, and consulting contracts. In addition, the proposed bill provides that the provisions of the 10% reduction in contracts shall not apply to the secretary of state's office or contracts with providers of healthcare services under the medical assistance program (Medicaid).

According to the DOA, because this bill does not provide a mechanism for implementing the 10% reduction in contract expenditures, OCR would be responsible in determining what specific contracts would be reduced and require OCR to prioritize overall contract spending statewide. Due to this requirement and because OCR currently only has 6 TO positions, the DOA has indicated a need of 2 additional positions at an anticipated total cost of \$190,000 to implement the required provisions of this legislation. However, to the extent OCR were to utilize the existing personnel in the Office of Planning & Budget (OPB) to satisfy the requirements of this legislation, the DOA will likely not need the additional TO positions.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

The proposed bill will result in an indeterminable one time FY 15 ending year SGF dedication to the newly created Higher Education Financing Fund. The original source of such funds would be unexpended SGF appropriations for professional, personal and consulting service contracts at the end of FY 15. The LFO is unable to project of how much unexpended SGF will be made available for transfer based upon the current reports provided by OCR. These reports do not specifically indicate the means of finance utilized to pay the contracts. Also, any appropriations from this fund for Higher Education would likely not occur until FY 16.

Senate	Dual Referral Rules	House	<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}	 Evan Brasseaux Staff Director
<input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}		<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(2) >= \$500,000 State Rev. Reduc. {H & 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}		