

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE**  
**Fiscal Note**



Fiscal Note On: **HB 51** HLS 15RS 79  
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> March 30, 2015 9:48 AM	<b>Author:</b> HOWARD
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Department of Wildlife & Fisheries	<b>Analyst:</b> Drew Danna
<b>Subject:</b> Provides for bounty on feral hogs	

HUNTING OR INCREASE SD EX See Note Page 1 of 1  
 Provides for a bounty on feral hogs

Proposed law authorizes the secretary of the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries to enter cooperative endeavor agreements with landowners to share the cost of a bounty on feral hogs. The department matches the landowner's bounty up to \$2.50 per feral hog towards the total bounty offered. Proposed law also provides that the department only participates when funds are available and no bounty shall be paid if department resources are employed in taking feral hogs from the landowner's property during the term of the agreement. The proposed bill allows the department to promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act.

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>
<b>Annual Total</b>						
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

The proposed legislation is anticipated to result in an indeterminable increase in statutorily dedicated expenditures from the Conservation Fund. This bill provides for the department to share in the cost with a landowner the bounty of a feral hog up to \$2.50 per hog. The bounty provided by the department will supplement the bounty offered by the landowner to potential harvesters. According to the department, the average bounty issued by a landowner in similar programs around the country range from \$5 to \$15. The specific number of landowners participating in the proposed program and feral hogs harvested as a result of the proposed legislation is unclear at this time.

According to the department, due to the short gestation cycles and high litter counts by sows, approximately 70% of the feral hog population in Louisiana would have to be harvested in order to have an impact, which equates to 350,000 hogs. To the extent 350,000 feral hogs are harvested as a result of this proposed bill, the total estimated cost to the state would be \$875,000. The department does not expect to reach the 70% threshold due to difficulty associated with harvesting feral hogs and the nominal bounty, meaning the likely expenditures would be considerably lower than the \$875,000 estimate.

According to the department, other potential expenditures associated with the bounty program are difficult to calculate. These projected costs include: proof of harvesting, verification of the property the harvesting took place on, disposal of the harvested hogs, and enforcement protocols to protect against fraudulent claims. All of these identified issues will likely be addressed in the administrative rule making process.

There is no sunset date for the bounty program in the current version of the bill.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

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

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|---|----------------------------|--|---|
| Senate  | <u>Dual Referral Rules</u> | House  | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S} |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}       |                            | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(2) >= \$500,000 Rev. Red. to State {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} |   |

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