

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **SB 440** SLS 16RS 980
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 18, 2016 4:24 PM	Author: PERRY
Dept./Agy.: Disability Affairs and Veterans Affairs	
Subject: Louisiana Service Dog Registry and licensure of trainers	Analyst: Alan M. Boxberger

VETERANS AFFAIRS OR SEE FISC NOTE GF EX Page 1 of 1
 Provides for the creation of a Louisiana Service Dog Registry and licensure of service dog trainers. (8/1/16)

Proposed law requires the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs (ODA) to create a service dog registry and issue an identification card for the owner and a patch for a service dog indicating that the dog has been properly trained; provides that an individual seeking to register a dog shall provide certain information; requires the LA Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) to establish qualifications for, and issue a license to, a dog trainer who wishes to train service dogs eligible for inclusion in the Louisiana Service Dog Registry; provides that veterans and members of the armed forces seeking training as a service dog trainer shall be eligible for any available education-related programs or benefits; and requires that ODA and DVA shall promulgate rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement proposed law. Proposed law is effective August 1, 2016.

EXPENDITURES	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Agy. Self-Gen.	SEE BELOW					
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>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	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>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law requires the LA Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) to establish qualifications for, and issue a license to, a dog trainer who wishes to train service dogs eligible for inclusion in the Louisiana Service Dog Registry. DVA reports that it anticipates requiring the addition of 1 T.O. position, an administrative coordinator, including salary and related benefits of approximately \$32,500. DVA additionally reports a first-year operating expense of \$2,000 with out year operating expenses of \$1,000 annually, and a first-year equipment and supplies cost of \$4,000 with out year expenses at \$2,000 annually.

In general terms, creation of such a license will require administrative work time associated with establishing a program and licensure and promulgating rules to such effect. There will likely be a workload increase associated with processing applications and communicating with individuals wishing to become licensed as a service dog trainer, though the LFO believes the number of applicants to likely be minimal and the costs could potentially be absorbed by existing staff and resources. DVA is likely to realize a one-time indeterminable expenditure associated with the establishment of a license for a service dog trainer, along with a nominal ongoing expense in the out years.

Proposed law requires the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs (ODA) to create a Louisiana Service Dog Registry and issue identification cards to the owner and a patch for the service dog indicating that it has been properly trained. In general terms, creation of such a registry and the capacity to issue identification cards and patches will require administrative work time associated with developing rules and guidelines for the program and promulgating rules to such effect. There will likely be at least a nominal workload increase associated with maintaining the registry, and issuing identification cards to owners and patches to service dogs. The ODA and LFO are unable to anticipate the number of individuals that may seek to register a service dog and thus cannot determine the need for additional staff augmentation or fiscal resources.

To the extent that the workload created by proposed law may exceed the ability of DVA and ODA to absorb within existing staff and resources, one or both agencies may require additional expenditure authority (assumed to be SGF) to provide required services. To the extent that either agency may establish fees through rule promulgation associated with licensure or issuance of identification cards or patches, the need for SGF may decrease accordingly.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| <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)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {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} | |

Evan Brasseaux
Evan Brasseaux
Staff Director