

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 153** HLS 12RS 557

Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 2, 2012 10:05 AM	Author: ANDERS
Dept./Agy.: Agriculture and Forestry	Analyst: Stephanie C. Blanchard
Subject: Organic certification cost-share rebate program	

AGRICULTURE

EG +\$9,750 SD EX See Note

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Provides for an organic certification cost-share rebate program

Proposed law establishes the Louisiana Organic Certification Cost-Share Rebate Program to support and encourage organic production in the state. Authorizes the commissioner to establish a state cost-share rebate program within the department to provide for reimbursement of a portion of organic certification costs incurred by organic producers and handlers who are certified by private organic certifiers which are accredited by the USDA National Organic Program. Allows cooperative agreements between the commissioner and organic producers and handlers.

EXPENDITURES	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$9,750	\$9,750	\$9,750	\$9,750	\$9,750	\$48,750
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	\$9,750	\$9,750	\$9,750	\$9,750	\$9,750	\$48,750

REVENUES	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	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

The proposed legislation authorizes the establishment of a cost-share rebate program within the Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) that will aid Louisiana organic operations by reimbursing a portion of organic certification costs incurred by organic producers and handlers. Based on reimbursement equaling or matching the calculated USDA Cost-Share Rebate up to \$750 or up to the total cost of organic certification, whichever is less, LDAF estimates total reimbursements to organic producers of \$9,750 from the Horticulture and Quarantine Fund. This estimate is based on the following: 10 organic producers (livestock & handling operations) @ \$750 each and 10 organic producers (small growers) @ \$225 each. The current balance of this fund is approximately \$900,000.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

Senate

Dual Referral Rules

House

13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}

6.8(F)1 >= \$500,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S}

13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}

6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Evan Brasseaux

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