



**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **SB 384** SLS 26RS 544
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 20, 2026 4:40 PM	Author: HARRIS, JIMMY
Dept./Agy.: Local Parish Governments	
Subject: Creation of Pilot Innovation Hubs in Certain Parishes	Analyst: Noah O'Dell

TECHNOLOGY OR SEE FISC NOTE LF EX Page 1 of 1
 Authorizes creation of the Pilot Innovation Hub in certain parishes. (8/1/26)

Proposed law authorizes the parish governing authority of any parish with a population between 350,000 and 410,000 persons to designate the parish as a Pilot Innovation Hub (PIH) to test and validate technologies addressing public challenges. The PIH may enter into a memorandum of understanding with an anchor organization to support start-up businesses and may allow testing of products on public property and with associated permitting authorities. Anchor organizations must identify a funding source for the pilot program through either public or private funding. Upon successful completion of the pilot program, the parish governing authority shall award a sole-source contract (excluding professional services) to the innovator without competitive bidding, subject to public notice, a 30-day protest period, and a requirement that the business maintain dedicated operations in the state.

Effective August 1, 2026.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

To the extent a local parish governing authority with a population between 350,000 and 410,000 elects to designate itself as a Pilot Innovation Hub, proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in Local Funds expenditures beginning in FY 27. Participating parish governments may incur administrative costs associated with oversight, coordination, and evaluation of pilot projects. Following completion of a pilot program addressing a public challenge, procurement costs will ultimately depend on the contracting decisions of the parish governing authority and are therefore indeterminable.

Many of the operational requirements of the program appear to be carried out by anchor organizations that partner with the parish government for the pilot program. These organizations are required to identify public or private funding sources for the pilot and are responsible for delivering a comprehensive pilot report to the parish government.

Upon successful completion of the pilot program addressing a public challenge, the parish governing authority shall award a sole-source contract (excluding professional services) to the innovator without competitive bidding, subject to public notice, a 30-day protest period, and a requirement that the business maintain dedicated operations in the state.

Because the program may be applied to a wide range of public challenges, including but not limited to flooding, water management, subsidence, infrastructure, energy resilience, maritime logistics, and coastal restoration, the Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) is unable to estimate the potential increase in local expenditures. The LFO assumes such contracts may likely exceed the \$100,000. However, the option of New Orleans to designate itself as a Pilot Innovation Hub is speculative.

Note: Based on the most recent U.S. Census Bureau population estimates, Orleans Parish appears to be the only parish with a population between 350,000 and 410,000 persons and therefore the only parish currently eligible to designate itself as a Pilot Innovation Hub under the bill.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

Senate Dual Referral Rules
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Alan M. Boxberger
 Alan M. Boxberger
 Legislative Fiscal Officer