



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: HB 161 HLS 19RS 278

Bill Text Version: ORIGINAL

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Table with 2 rows and 2 columns. Row 1: Date: April 17, 2019 9:15 AM, Author: CARTER, R. Row 2: Dept./Agy.: Louisiana Department of Agricultural and Forestry, Analyst: Willis Brewer. Subject: Prohibits a person convicted of animal abuse from owning

ANIMALS OR +\$106,784 GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
Prohibits a person convicted of animal abuse from owning an animal

Proposed law requires any person convicted of certain animal abuse offenses to register with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF), including sexual abuse of animals, cruelty to animals, dogfighting, injuring or killing of a police animal, or hog and canine fighting; requires the offender to register for 10 years for a first offense and a lifetime for a second or subsequent offense, and prohibits the offender from possessing or owning an animal for the amount of time registration is required; requires the offender to register within seven days of conviction, release from incarceration, or moving to La. if convicted in another state; provides that offenders shall pay \$50 annually to support administrative costs of maintaining the registry; provides that offenders who fail to comply with registration requirements shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000, imprisonment for not more than six months, or both; requires LDAF to establish a public registry containing the name, address, date and description of the crime, and current photograph of each registered offender; and requires retail pet stores and animal shelters to check the registry prior to selling or giving an animal away, prohibits selling or giving an animal to anyone on the registry, and establishes fines for violations.

Table with 7 columns: EXPENDITURES, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24, 5 -YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total. Similar structure for REVENUES.

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law will result in an increase in one-time expenditures (\$53,634) and recurring expenditures (\$53,150) in the Louisiana Department of Agricultural and Forestry (LDAF) to establish an animal abuse registry that contains registered offenders' demographic and residential information along with a current photograph.

One-time Expenditures - LDAF estimates the Animal Abuse registration system will cost approximately \$50,000. LDAF reports that other one-time costs include operating supplies for an additional T.O. position including a desk, chair, computer, and printer (\$3,150).

Recurring Expenditures - LDAF estimates it will require one Administrative Coordinator 3 at an annual cost of \$52,834 for personal services (\$32,771 salaries and \$20,063 related benefits) and \$800 for associated operating services (maintenance \$200, office \$300, and telephone \$300). This position will be responsible for maintaining the registry database. The Legislative Fiscal Office is unable to determine or validate the staff level necessary to provide for the administration of the new registry database. To the extent the additional workload is less than what LDAF anticipates, the additional workload may be absorbed either wholly or partially using existing staff and resources or by overtime. If the volume of offenders is significant, the necessity of a full-time employee may be warranted. NOTE: This fiscal note assumes SGF expenditures, but proposed law requires each offender to pay \$50 annually to support the administrative costs of maintaining the registry. The revenues are indeterminable, but not expected to fully cover projected costs in the short term.

Proposed law may impact expenditures of local governing authorities. An offender who fails comply with the provisions of proposed law will commit a misdemeanor offense and may increase local expenditures to imprison the individual for not more than six months.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in Local Funds revenue as a result of potential fines if any person convicted of animal abuse offenses fails to comply with the registration requirements. The maximum fine is \$1,000. All retail pet stores and animal shelters shall be subject to potential fines for failure to check the registry before selling or adopting an animal to a person listed on the registry. The fines are \$250 for a first offense, \$500 for second and \$1,000 for a third or any subsequent. The potential revenue will accrue to the local governing authority. The potential net effect on sentencing decisions cannot be determined and the potential revenue impact is therefore unknown.

Proposed law will result in an indeterminable increase in SGR revenues for LDAF. An offender required to submit his or her name onto the animal abuse registry created pursuant to proposed law will be required to pay a fee of \$50 to LDAF upon initial registration and annually from the first date of registration. These funds shall be used to pay the administrative costs of maintaining the registry. The revenues are indeterminable, but not expected to fully cover projected costs in the short term.

Table with 2 rows and 2 columns. Row 1: Senate Dual Referral Rules, House. Row 2: 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}, 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}. Row 3: 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}. Signature of Evan Brasseaux, Staff Director.