



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR  
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 70** HLS 19RS 267

Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> May 23, 2019	2:41 PM	<b>Author:</b> BISHOP, S.
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Lafayette City Court and 15th JDC Public Defender		
<b>Subject:</b> Lafayette City Court Indigent Defender Fund		<b>Analyst:</b> Mike Battle

COURTS/CITYEG NO IMPACT LF See NotePage 1 of 1

Provides relative to indigent defense services in certain city courts

**Purpose of Bill:** This bill creates the Lafayette City Court Indigent Defender Fund and authorizes the City Court of Lafayette to deposit 30% of the funds already collected by the Court pursuant to R.S. 15:168(B) into the new fund rather than remitting 100% of the funds collected to the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Public Defenders’ Fund. The bill also provides for the Lafayette City Court Indigent Defender Fund Board to manage and oversee the fund.

EXPENDITURES	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	5 -YEAR TOTAL
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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Annual Total						

REVENUES	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	5 -YEAR TOTAL
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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Annual Total						

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**  
**There is no anticipated direct overall material effect on local governmental expenditures as a result of this measure, as the bill only provides for a specific reallocation of local expenditures.**

An official with the City Court of Lafayette indicated that expenditures for the new Lafayette City Court Indigent Defender Fund would increase to provide public defender services to the defendants charged with traffic and criminal offenses being handled in Lafayette City Court. He also indicated that expenditures for the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Public Defender Fund should be reduced as the district office would no longer be providing these public defender services to the City Court.

An official with the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Public Defender Board indicated that expenditures from the District’s fund would decline by approximately \$84,000 per year by no longer providing public defender services for Lafayette’s City Court.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**  
**There is no anticipated direct overall material effect on local governmental revenues as a result of this measure as the bill provides for a specific reallocation of local revenues.**

An official with the City Court of Lafayette indicated that the funds collected by the court will be divided 70%/30% between the District’s Public Defender Fund and the City Court’s Indigent Defender Fund. While revenue for the new Lafayette City Court Indigent Defender Fund would increase by retaining 30% of the collected funds, revenue for the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Public Defender Fund would likewise decrease by 30% of the collected funds.

The official indicated that the City Court of Lafayette collected \$609,966 in 2018 pursuant to R.S. 15:168(B). The Court expects to collect approximately \$500,000 to \$600,000 each year over the next five years. Therefore, the amount retained by the City Court of Lafayette and not remitted to the District’s Public Defender Fund may range from \$150,000 to \$180,000 per year.

However, an official with the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Public Defender Board estimates that the decline in revenue to the District’s fund will increase from \$142,584 in 2019-2020 to \$278,800 in 2023-2024.