

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE**  
**Fiscal Note**



Fiscal Note On: **SB 278** SLS 24RS 556  
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> March 26, 2024 11:29 AM	<b>Author:</b> JACKSON-ANDREWS
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Department of Children and Family Services	
<b>Subject:</b> Creates Louisiana Pregnancy and Baby Care Initiative	<b>Analyst:</b> Tamiko Stroud

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 Creates the Louisiana Pregnancy and Baby Care Initiative. (gov sig)

Proposed law creates the Louisiana Pregnancy and Baby Care Initiative in the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and provides for the structure and administration of the program. Proposed law provides for a general contractor to manage the program and subcontractors to provide certain services to eligible participants. Proposed law provides for annual reporting. Proposed law provides that the Louisiana Pregnancy and Baby Care Initiative will be implemented on August 1, 2024, and that it is replacing the Alternatives to Abortion Program. Proposed law provides that the Louisiana Pregnancy and Baby Care Initiative will be funded in a separate line-item of the general appropriations act or receive all funds appropriated for the Louisiana Alternatives to Abortions Program. Proposed law requires DCFS to maintain contracts with providers of the Louisiana Alternatives to Abortions Program in effect prior to August 1, 2024, during the transition from the department to the office of the governor. Proposed law prohibits the Louisiana Pregnancy and Baby Care Initiative from using funds for any program or service related to abortion. Proposed law requires DCFS to promulgate rules, annually report to the legislature.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Annual Total</b>						
REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	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
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

The proposed law requires DCFS to replace the Alternatives to Abortion Program with a newly created program called the Louisiana Pregnancy and Baby Care Initiative. The current program is funded with Temporary Assistance and Needy Families (TANF) block grants funds. To the extent TANF dollars are not utilized for the new program, the legislature will have to appropriate an alternative means of finance (reflected as general fund in the expenditure table above). The new program acts as a statewide social service program to enhance and increase resources that promote childbirth instead of abortion for women facing unplanned pregnancies and to offer services, including pregnancy support, parenting help, and adoption assistance. The Legislative Fiscal Office anticipates an increase in the cost over existing program funding by an indeterminable amount, as this measure adds additional administrative costs associated with hiring a general contractor to administer the program (administrative costs include marketing and outreach, and management of payments to various subcontractors). In addition, one requirement of the new program is to enhance and increase services/resources for eligible recipients.

Information provided by DCFS reflects \$897,411 in FY 23 actual expenditures and a total of \$1,054,054 for the FY 24 contract amounts in the existing Louisiana Alternatives to Abortion Program. The proposed law requires DCFS to maintain previously established contracts with providers of the Louisiana Alternatives to Abortions Program in effect prior to August 1, 2024, during the transition to the Louisiana Pregnancy and Baby Care Initiative.

Also, the proposed law requires DCFS to report annually to the legislature on the status on the Pregnancy and Baby Care Initiative. The LFO believes that the department can complete the annual reporting requirement with utilizing existing resources and staff within the agency's existing operating budget.

**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}

**Patrice Thomas**  
 Deputy Fiscal Officer