



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE  
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 486** HLS 25RS 968  
Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**  
Opp. Chamb. Action:  
  
Proposed Amd.:  
Sub. Bill For.: **REVISED**

<b>Date:</b> May 16, 2025	3:55 PM	<b>Author:</b> FISHER
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Education		
<b>Subject:</b> Mental health assessments for grades 4-12		<b>Analyst:</b> Julie Silva

HEALTH EG SEE FISC NOTE GF EX Page 1 of 1  
Requires public schools to offer a mental health assessment to certain students

Proposed legislation requires public schools to make available a mental health assessment by a licensed behavioral health provider for all students in grades three through 12, if authorized by a parent or guardian, within the first 90 days of each school year.

EXPENDITURES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	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
Annual Total						

REVENUES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	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

Proposed legislation will result in an increase in expenditures, assumed to be SGF in this fiscal note, to ensure the provision of mental health assessments for all students in grades three through eight at each public school, as authorized by a parent or legal guardian.

**Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE)** - The bill provides that assessments are to be provided at no cost to a city, parish, or other local public school board. The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) provides some school systems may currently employ licensed behavioral health providers who can conduct assessments upon request, which may offset increased SGF expenditures that would otherwise be realized using other implementation methods.

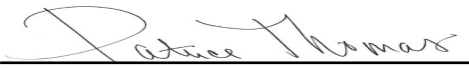
**Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), Office of Behavioral Health (OBH)** - Proposed legislation requires the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to prepare lists for each public school of “licensed behavioral health providers” defined as either (1) a licensed behavioral health provider approved by LDH to provide behavioral health services and who is properly credentialed by an accrediting body, or (2) an individual provider who is licensed and authorized to conduct mental health assessments. Provision of this information can be completed by OBH at no additional cost to the department.

**LA Medicaid** - It is anticipated that additional assessments will result in additional Medicaid expenditures. For mental health assessments performed by behavioral health providers, the services will be covered as follows: (1) Medicaid for students who are covered by Medicaid or determined to be Medicaid eligible; or (2) third-party insurers for students with private insurance. The bill does not direct how assessments conducted by providers will be funded. To the extent proposed legislation results in more students receiving mental health assessments, expenditures in Medicaid may be impacted. It is unknown how many parents will authorize mental health assessments for their children.

Note: LFO has requested additional information from LDH concerning potential costs for this subset of Medicaid eligible students and will update this fiscal note when such information is received.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

Senate	Dual Referral Rules	House	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}	 <b>Patrice Thomas</b> Deputy Fiscal Officer
<input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}		<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}	