## Louisiana Legislative Auditor Fiscal Notes

## OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **SB** 179 SLS 25RS

**Author:** CATHEY

Bill Text Version: REENGROSSED

Opp. Chamb. Action: Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For .:

**Date:** May 7, 2025 12:53 PM

**Dept./Agy.:** Louisiana Tax Commission & Local Government Entities

Subject: Allocation of Property Tax Assessments

Analyst: Chris Province

TAX/AD VALOREM RE SEE FISC NOTE LF RV

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Provides relative to the allocation of ad valorem tax assessed values of certain property. (gov sig)

**Purpose of the Bill**: The bill changes how the assessed value of certain movable property, owned or used in Louisiana by companies without a residence, domicile, agent, or office in the state, is allocated for property tax purposes. It reallocates this assessed value from East Baton Rouge Parish (EBR) to a statewide distribution based on each parish's share of active railroad track miles.

This reallocation is to be phased in over four years (2026 through 2029).

| <b>EXPENDITURES</b> | 2025-26   | 2026-27   | 2027-28   | 2028-29   | 2029-30   | 5 -YEAR TOTAL |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| State Gen. Fd.      | \$5,000   | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       | \$5,000       |
| 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 |               |
| 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         | SEE BELOW |               |
| Annual Total        |           |           |           |           |           |               |

## **EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

This bill may increase Louisiana Tax Commission (LTC) expenditures by \$5,000 in Fiscal Year 2026 and may increase the expenditures of Sheriffs' offices by a minimal amount.

**LTC:** Based on information from LTC, there are 327 companies/taxpayers to whom this bill appears to apply. An LTC official indicated that this bill may increase LTC expenditures by up to \$5,000 in Fiscal Year 2026 for software changes necessary to implement the allocation and reporting requirements of the bill, which will be done for each company/taxpayer.

**Sheriffs:** A Louisiana Sheriffs' Association official indicated that sheriffs of parishes outside of East Baton Rouge may incur additional expenditures related to mailing additional tax bills. However, this amount is expected to be minimal.

## **REVENUE EXPLANATION**

This bill may shift local revenues, decreasing revenue for certain EBR entities while increasing it for entities in other parishes. However, the <u>exact</u> impact, both overall and for each parish/entity, is currently indeterminable. The following analysis was provided to illustrate the bill's potential impact on local revenue under specific conditions. For this analysis, we: (1) obtained data from LTC and local entities; (2) allocated the total assessed value of railcars (\$80.33 million) across 56 parishes, including East Baton Rouge, based on each parish's share of total state rail miles; and (3) calculated and applied average property tax rates (rates received as of March 2024) for each parish.

| Year                      | Impact (EBR)       | Impact (Other 55 Parishes) |
|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
|                           | -                  | -                          |
| FY 2026 (1/4 Phase In)    | 2,121,696 Decrease | 1,822,234 Increase         |
| FY 2027 (2/4 Phase In)    | 4,243,392 Decrease | 3,644,468 Increase         |
| FY 2028 (3/4 Phase In)    | 6,365,088 Decrease | 5,466,701 Increase         |
| FY 2029 (End of Phase In) | 8,486,784 Decrease | 7,288,935 Increase         |

Note: The analysis shows a calculated decrease in local revenue due to differences in parish property tax rates used.

| <u>Senate</u> 13.5.1 >= | <u>Dual Referral Rules</u><br>\$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H} | House $6.8(F)(1) >= $100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}$             | M. G. Battle                                    |
|-------------------------|--|---|---|
| 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} | Michael G. Battle<br>Manager, Advisory Services |