



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE  
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 608** HLS 25RS 388  
Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**  
Opp. Chamb. Action:  
  
Proposed Amd.:  
Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> May 12, 2025	6:31 PM	<b>Author:</b> COATES
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> State Police/Sheriffs/Military/Corrections/Treasury		
<b>Subject:</b> Louisiana Atmospheric Protection Act		<b>Analyst:</b> Kimberly Fruge

ENVIRONMENT OR SEE FISC NOTE GF EX Page 1 of 1  
Creates the Louisiana Atmospheric Protection Act

Proposed law provides for the Louisiana Atmospheric Protection Act; proposed law prohibits the use of solar radiation modification, weather modification, cloud-seeding, or any other atmospheric pollution for the purpose of atmospheric experiments or interventions through the use of aircraft, balloons, a space-based platform, ground generators, or an interoperable ground-based facility; provides for criminal penalties; requires state police and law enforcement officers to determine whether violations have occurred and if deemed necessary refer any potentially prohibited activity to the Louisiana Air National Guard or State Guard; provides that any public or private communications infrastructure be evaluated by an independent licensed radio frequency engineer paid for by the facility owner; provides for a fine of not less than \$500,000 per day for each day the facility is out of compliance with radio frequency level; creates the Atmospheric Protection Fund, provides that any fines collected under proposed law be deposited into the fund.

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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Annual Total						

REVENUES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	5 -YEAR TOTAL
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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 law may result in an indeterminable increase in SGF expenditures in the Department of Public Safety & Corrections - Corrections Services, to the extent that a person sustains a conviction for weather modification. The exact fiscal impact of the passage of this legislation to state or local governing authorities is indeterminable, since it is not known how many people will be convicted, nor the length of the sentences assessed as a result of its potential enactment. On first conviction, an offender may be imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than one year. On a second and subsequent conviction, an offender may be imprisoned for not less than two years at hard labor. Proposed law is a relative felony on first offense and a felony on second or subsequent offense. Any impact on either state or local expenditures is contingent on whether offenders sustain either a misdemeanor or felony-grade conviction for their violation.

To the extent that offenders sustain a felony-grade conviction for violation of the proposed law, DPS&C-CS will sustain an indeterminable increase in SGF expenditures. For those convicted, sentenced, and then subsequently housed in a state facility, DPS&C-CS will sustain expenditures of \$107.60 per offender per day. For those housed in local facilities, DPS&C-CS will incur expenditures of \$26.39 per offender per day. DPS&C-CS advises that impacts on offender populations are anticipated to impact the number of offenders held in local facilities, and that in managing its offender population, it seeks to fill all beds in state facilities first, then assigns overflow offenders to local facilities.

To the extent that offenders sustain a misdemeanor conviction for violation of the proposed law, local governing authorities will incur Local Funds expenditures. The exact fiscal impact of the passage of this legislation to local governing authorities is indeterminable, since it is not known how many people will be convicted and incarcerated in local facilities.

Proposed law requires law enforcement officers to determine whether violations have occurred and, if necessary, defer prohibited activity to the Louisiana Air National Guard or State Guard. State Police and the Department of Military report that the fiscal impact of proposed law is indeterminable at this time as the anticipated workload increase or technology needed is unknown. To the extent the workload increases or new technology is required there may be an increase in expenditures to State Police, Sheriffs, or the Military Department.

Proposed law requires communication infrastructure to be evaluated by an independent licensed radio frequency engineer. To the extent any state or local agencies have communication infrastructure that would be subject to an evaluation, there will be an increase in expenditures for such a purpose. Any such increase is indeterminable.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may result in an increase in revenues deposited into the Atmospheric Protection Fund as a result of convictions for weather modification or failure to comply with radio frequency limits. The exact fiscal impact of the passage of this legislation is indeterminable. The fines imposed on those convicted are optional, and the amount of fines may vary.

Senate	Dual Referral Rules	House	
<input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}		<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}	
<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}	<div>Patrice Thomas Deputy Fiscal Officer</div>