

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



Fiscal Note On: **SB 4** SLS 26RS 116

Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> March 24, 2026 8:30 AM	<b>Author:</b> FESI
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Louisiana Department of Health/OPH	<b>Analyst:</b> Anthony Shamis
<b>Subject:</b> Water Fluoridation of Public Water Systems	

PUBLIC HEALTH EG SEE FISC NOTE LF EX See Note  
Provides relative to water fluoridation. (1/1/27)

Proposed law repeals the mandatory fluoridation requirement for public water systems with 5,000 or more service connections. Any water system that has added fluoridation, as of July 1, 2026, may not cease fluoridation unless authorized by a local election. An election may be called only if a petition is signed by at least 15% of registered voters in the service area. Public water systems are not required to remove naturally occurring fluoride.

Proposed law eliminates future compliance costs related to acquiring, installing, and maintaining fluoridation equipment, previously required by the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) if funding was available. Proposed law is effective January 1, 2027.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	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	<b>SEE BELOW</b>					
<b>Annual Total</b>						
REVENUES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable impact on Local Funds expenditures. Proposed law repeals mandatory fluoridation for any public water system in Louisiana that does not have added fluoride as of July 1, 2026. Any water system that has added fluoridation, as of July 1, 2026, may not cease fluoridation unless local voter approval through an election initiated by a petition signed by at least 15% of registered voters in the area served. Proposed law may necessitate a standalone local election or the addition of a fluoridation removal initiative to a scheduled election. Costs will depend on the number of precincts involved, the number of ballot items, and whether the election coincides with a statewide election. Local elections to cease fluoridation are expected to occur infrequently. While the actual cost is indeterminable, it is likely not significant.

Proposed law may also result in an indeterminable decrease in local governmental expenditures. It repeals the Louisiana Department of Health's (LDH) authority to mandate fluoridation for public water systems with 5,000 or more service connections.

Proposed law may result in cost avoidance related to ongoing fluoride expenses, particularly for systems that have not yet installed fluoridation equipment. Under current law, systems are only required to implement fluoridation if sufficient state funding is identified. To the extent that some systems have not implemented fluoridation, the bill may reduce potential future expenditures.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure. Proposed law does not impose or repeal any taxes, fees, fines, or assessments, nor does it authorize any new sources of revenue for the state or local governing authorities. Fluoridation equipment and services were contingent upon funding availability under current law, and the repeal of the mandate is not expected to impact existing or projected revenue streams.

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}

*Alan M. Boxberger*

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**Legislative Fiscal Officer**