



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 946** HLS 26RS 1326
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 22, 2026	2:34 PM	Author: LANDRY, MANDIE
Dept./Agy.: Louisiana Department of Health		Analyst: Anthony Shamis
Subject: Compliance with federal healthcare pricing regulations		

HEALTH OR +\$389,507 GF EX See Note Page 1 of 2
 Provides relative to penalties for noncompliance with Federal requirements for healthcare cost publication

Present law provides for legislative intent to improve transparency in prices and care quality measures by creating an information database that can be accessed by the public while ensuring protection of confidential information. Proposed law retains present law and further requires that the database be comprised of information published by hospitals in compliance with federal law, sorted by provider and service. Proposed law defines "Hospital pricing transparency requirements" as regulations found in 45 CFR Part 180. Proposed law requires the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to annually verify the compliance of all healthcare providers with hospital pricing transparency requirements. Further requires the department, on or before January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, to publish on its public website the names of all hospitals determined to be out of compliance with such requirements. Proposed law prohibits a healthcare provider that is not in material compliance with hospital pricing transparency requirements from initiating or pursuing collection actions against a patient or patient guarantor for amounts owed for items or services. Proposed law further provides for instructions to patients regarding actions to take if they receive services from a noncompliant healthcare provider that initiates a collection action against them. Proposed law provides that if a court finds that a hospital is materially out of compliance with hospital pricing transparency requirements, the hospital shall refund any amounts paid by the patient or guarantor, pay court costs, take all necessary actions to remove any related adverse information reported to a consumer reporting agency, and notify LDH.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$389,507	\$138,681	\$138,681	\$138,681	\$138,681	\$944,231
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	\$389,507	\$138,681	\$138,681	\$138,681	\$138,681	\$944,231

REVENUES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	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 law is anticipated to increase SGF expenditures by \$389,507 in FY 27 within the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), Office of Public Health (OPH). This amount includes \$87,726 for the addition of one (1) Program Monitor T.O. position for nine months and \$1,781 in associated equipment costs. This position will be responsible for monitoring healthcare providers' compliance with federal healthcare pricing regulations. Additionally, implementation will require a one-time expenditure estimated at \$300,000 for the development of a database and web application through a contract with the Office of Technology Services (OTS) to centralize hospital pricing information required under this legislation.

Personnel Costs (\$87,726 SGF):

OBH reports that salary and related benefits associated with the addition of one (1) Program Monitor T.O. position at the midpoint salary for nine months in FY 27 will total \$87,726. The midpoint salary for a Program Manager 1A position (AS 618) is \$77,979, or \$6,498.25 per month (\$6,498.25 x 9 months = \$58,484.25). Related benefits are calculated at 50% of salaries (\$58,484.25 x 50% = \$29,242.13). The salary is annualized to twelve months beginning in FY 28. LDH indicates that this position will be responsible for monitoring healthcare facilities for annual compliance with federal law (45 CFR Part 180). The position will also be responsible for collecting price lists from over 200 hospitals, performing software testing, and providing ongoing public-facing user support.

Other Charges/interagency Transfers (IAT) (\$300,000 SGF):

Information provided by LDH indicates the need for a contract with OTS for the development of a database and web application, associated automation, and infrastructure to centralize all hospital pricing information required under 45 CFR Part 180 in a publicly available, searchable format. Beginning in FY 28, LDH anticipates \$20,000 in annual costs associated with maintenance costs, such as bug fixes, any schema (modification to the structure of the database) changes from hospital files, infrastructure and cloud costs, and any minor database/application feature enhancements.

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

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}

Alan M. Boxberger
 Alan M. Boxberger
 Legislative Fiscal Officer



**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **HB 946** HLS 26RS 1326
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 22, 2026 2:34 PM	Author: LANDRY, MANDIE
Dept./Agy.: Louisiana Department of Health	
Subject: Compliance with federal healthcare pricing regulations	Analyst: Anthony Shamis

CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:

Page 2 of 2

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

An itemized list of projected costs is reflected below:

- \$ 15,000 - Discovery and Requirements
- \$ 15,000 - User Interface Design
- \$105,000 - Backend Development
- \$ 75,000 - Extract Transfer and Load (ETL) Pipeline Development and Automation
- \$ 25,000 - Public Application Development
- \$ 20,000 - Quality Assurance (QA) Testing, and Security
- \$ 15,000 - Infrastructure Setup
- \$ 30,000 - Project Management and Overhead
- \$300,000 - Total Projected Costs**

Equipment Costs (\$1,781 SGF):

LDH indicates the need for \$1,781 in equipment costs for a computer lease and peripherals in Fiscal Year 2027 and \$1,712 in Fiscal Year 2028 and subsequent fiscal years.

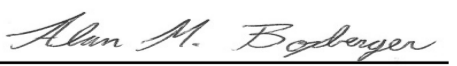
Note: The LFO is unable to corroborate the estimated staffing level, other charges/IAT costs, and equipment costs projected by LDH. To the extent the required staffing levels may be lower or higher, corresponding equipment costs would shift accordingly. To the extent that a portion of all of the prescribed duties can be absorbed by existing staff and resources, a portion of the projected costs may be mitigated. Should additional information regarding estimated expenditures become available, this fiscal note will be updated.

EXPENDITURES

Position	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
LDH - Program Monitor	\$87,726	\$116,969	\$116,969	\$116,969	\$116,969
Other Charges/IAT	\$300,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Equipment	\$1,781	\$1,712	\$1,712	\$1,712	\$1,712
Total Expenditures	\$389,507	\$138,681	\$138,681	\$138,681	\$138,681
T.O.	1	1	1	1	1

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
 Legislative Fiscal Officer