

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 1205** HLS 26RS 1108

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 24, 2026	4:13 PM	Author: MARCELLE
Dept./Agy.: Department of Conservation and Energy		Analyst: Richie Anderson
Subject: Aquifer Conservation Systems		

WATER/RESOURCES OR INCREASE GF EX See Note
Provides for the conservation of aquifer systems

Proposed law creates three groundwater conservation districts for the Chicot, Mississippi River Alluvial, and the Southern Hills aquifer systems. Proposed law provides for the boards of these districts, and specifies membership for each board, appointment of members, hearings, and reporting to the boards.

Proposed law provides that the following representatives shall serve as ex-officio members of the board: Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF), Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), Department of Conservation and Energy (DCE), the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), the Louisiana Rural Water Association, the Louisiana Cattlemen's Association, the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, each university in the parish, each senator whose district includes any portion of the parish, and any representative of industrial users of the groundwater appointed by the board to serve at its pleasure.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
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	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 may increase SGF expenditures for DCE. Proposed law establishes three groundwater conservation districts for the Chicot, Mississippi River Alluvial, and the Southern Hills aquifer systems. Proposed law is silent on how these districts will be established and who is responsible for funding the inception of these districts. To the extent that DCE is responsible for any initial administrative and technical support, then SGF expenditures would increase accordingly for the department.

DEQ, LDAF, LDWF, LDH, House, and Senate report that since their members would be serving as ex-officio members at the pleasure of the Secretary/ Commissioner/ Representative/ Senator, the per diem costs would be indeterminable, as it is unknown how many meetings will be held. In addition, any impacted university that sends a member to these district meetings may incur costs, such as per diem, for their representatives who attend. Per diem costs for these agencies and any impacted university are assumed to be nominal and absorbable using existing resources.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure. Proposed law provides that these districts can receive and expend funds from any source, public or private. Proposed law does not provide a specific source of funds to initially establish these aquifer conservation districts, or a recurring source for funding in future years.

Senate
 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}


Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer