



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 998** HLS 26RS 1453
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 27, 2026	5:23 PM	Author: FREEMAN
Dept./Agy.: Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement (LCLE)		Analyst: Anthony Shamis
Subject: Human trafficking & dom. violence involving strangulation		

CRIMINAL/VICTIMS OR INCREASE SD EX See Note Page 1 of 1

Provides relative to the examination and medical care of victims of human trafficking-related offenses and domestic violence offenses involving strangulation

Proposed law modifies present law by adding victims of human trafficking-related offenses and victims of domestic violence including strangulation to the definition of the term "forensic medical examination" and provides for additional assessments within a forensic medical examination relative to patient interviews, collection and evaluation of evidence, testing, and medication. Proposed law provides definitions for the terms "domestic violence" and "human trafficking-related offenses". Proposed law modifies present law to include survivors of human trafficking-related offenses that involve strangulation. Proposed law modifies present law to provide for additional assessments within the examination and treatment relative to patient interviews, collection and evaluation of evidence, testing, and medication. Proposed law modifies present law by prohibiting the direct billing of a survivor of a human trafficking-related offense, or a domestic violence offense that involves strangulation. Proposed law further defines what is considered medical treatment and what is exempt from forensic costs or billing. Proposed law modifies present law by adding that expenses associated with the healthcare services of victims of human trafficking-related offenses and victims of domestic violence offenses that involve strangulation are reimbursable out of the crime victims reparations fund and authorizes billing of insurance providers for a patient's medical expenses.

EXPENDITURES	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	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

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 is anticipated to increase expenditures within the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement (LCLE) out of the Statutory Dedicated Crime Victims Reparation Fund by an indeterminable amount due to expanded eligibility for reimbursement and additional costs associated with expanded forensic medical examinations in FY 27 and subsequent fiscal years.

Information provided by LCLE indicates the enhanced definition of a standard medical examination is expected to significantly impact the Crime Victims Reparation Program by increasing the number of claims paid from unclaimed prize money per La R.S. 4:176 and La R.S. 27:94, 252, 394, and 610, as more examinations will meet updated coverage criteria. The number of additional examinations cannot be reliably projected. The extent of the impact is dependent upon the number of eligible cases and services provided.

Proposed law provides that monies deposited by the state treasurer from the collection of specified unclaimed prize money shall be used to pay the expenses associated with healthcare services of human-trafficking related offenses, or domestic violence offenses that involve strangulation.

Healthcare providers who perform a forensic medical examination shall be reimbursed for the following: (1) forensic examiner and hospital or healthcare facility services directly related to the examination, including integral forensic supplies; (2) scope procedures directly related to the forensic medical examination, including, but not limited to anoscopy and colposcopy; (3) laboratory testing directly related to the forensic medical examination, including drug screening, urinalysis, pregnancy screening, syphilis screening, chlamydia culture, gonorrhea coverage culture, blood test for HIV screening, Hepatitis B and C, herpes culture, and any other sexually transmitted disease testing directly related to the forensic medical examination; (4) any medication provided during the forensic medical examination.

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}

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 Legislative Fiscal Officer