

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 53** HLS 26RS 533
 Bill Text Version: **ENROLLED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 29, 2026 1:22 PM	Author: FONTENOT
Dept./Agy.: Corrections and Sheriffs	
Subject: Gambling Crimes as Predicate Offenses for Racketeering	Analyst: Daniel Druilhet

GAMBLING EN SEE FISC NOTE GF EX Page 1 of 1
 Adds certain gambling crimes as predicate offenses for racketeering

Current law provides a list of crimes that constitute racketeering; assesses a fine of no more than \$1 million, or imprisonment at hard labor for no more than 50 years, or both, for those in violation; requires an offender to serve at least five years of a sentence without probation, parole, or suspension of sentence, when the amount of the racketeering violation exceeds \$10,000; requires an offender to pay a fine that does not exceed three times the gross value gained or three times the gross loss caused, whichever is greater, plus court costs and costs of investigation and prosecution reasonably incurred, in lieu of a fine otherwise authorized by law. Proposed law adds gambling, gambling in public, gambling by computer, gambling or wagering at cockfights, gambling by electronic sweepstakes device, unlawful wagering, and bribery of sports participants as predicate offenses to racketeering under the Louisiana Racketeering Act.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	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	\$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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Annual Total						

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in SGF expenditures in the Department of Public Safety & Corrections - Corrections Services (DPS&C-CS), to the extent that any new convictions for criminal offenses added to the Louisiana Racketeering Act as "racketeering activity" result in longer sentences currently imposed on those convicted for each of the individual offenses. Proposed law has the effect of adding an enhanced penalty of imprisonment for each of the crimes added to the Louisiana Racketeering Act to no more than 50 years, at hard labor, in addition to any sentence of imprisonment for conviction for any of the individual offenses. The exact fiscal impact of the passage of this legislation is indeterminable, because it is not known how many offenders will be convicted and subject to a sentence of imprisonment, nor the length of sentences assessed for those convictions as a result of its potential enactment.

For illustrative purposes, SGF expenditures will increase by \$107.60 per offender per day to the extent that an offender is convicted, sentenced, and then subsequently housed in a state facility or \$29.39 per offender per day for an offender housed in a local facility. Corrections Services reports that impacts on offender populations are anticipated to affect the number of offenders held in local facilities. Corrections Services reports that in managing its offender population, it seeks to fill all beds in state facilities first, then assigns overflow offenders to local facilities.

For informational purposes, the DPS&C-CS reports that for the past six years, an average of 17 offenders have been admitted into the custody of Corrections, with an average sentence length of 9 years for violations of the Louisiana Racketeering Act. For the past five years, none of the offenses to be included as "racketeering activity" under the proposed law (gambling, gambling in public, gambling by computer, gambling or wagering at cockfights, gambling by electronic sweepstakes device, unlawful wagering, or bribery of sports) have resulted in any convictions.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in local revenues as a result of convictions related to violations of the Louisiana Racketeering Act. The exact fiscal impact of the passage of this legislation on local revenue is indeterminable because the fines that would be imposed on those convicted are optional, and the amount of the fines, if imposed, may vary. The potential revenue will accrue to the local governing authority.

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| <u>Senate</u> | <u>Dual Referral Rules</u> | <u>House</u> |
| <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} |


Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer