



**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **SB 404** SLS 26RS 490
 Bill Text Version: **REENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action: **w/ HSE FLOOR AMD**
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 8, 2026	3:25 PM	Author: MCMATH
Dept./Agy.: Louisiana Department of Insurance		Analyst: Anthony Shamis
Subject: Provides relative to eye care providers		

HEALTH CARE REF INCREASE SG EX See Note Page 1 of 2
 Provides relative to eye care providers. (gov sig)

Proposed law modifies present law related to visual services, choice of practitioners, and establishes the Louisiana Vision Plan Transparency and Fair Practice Act to ensure patient access to eye care services and materials through transparent and fair business practices by vision benefit managers. Proposed law provides for the state's authority to regulate the professional delivery of health care services and protect public health, safety, and welfare. Proposed law provides for definitions, requirements and prohibitions associated with covered and noncovered services and fee schedules in contracts or agreements between insurers or vision benefit managers and eye care providers. Proposed law provides for requirements and prohibitions for eye care provider participation and credentialing by insurers and vision benefit managers. Proposed law is not applicable to medical benefits provided by an insurer under a health benefit plan that is not a vision benefit plan or vision benefit discount plan. Proposed law establishes a private right of action for any provider adversely affected by a violation of this measure, including injunctive relief and monetary damages of up to \$10,000 for each violation, plus attorney fees and costs. Proposed law authorizes the Department of Insurance and the Attorney General to enforce provisions of this law. Proposed law becomes effective upon signature of the governor, or after the lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

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.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
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.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
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

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law is anticipated to increase expenditures by an indeterminable, but potentially significant amount within the Louisiana Department of Insurance (LDI) and the Office of the Attorney General (AG), with costs increasing in future fiscal years. LDI estimates an increase in SGR expenditures of \$323,625 in FY 27. This increase is attributable to the addition of three (3) Insurance Specialist 3 T.O. positions along with associated operating expenses and one-time equipment costs to conduct compliance reviews and investigations, and to administer complaint intake and processing. **Note: Increased SGR expenditures within LDI result in less monies reverted to SGF at the end of the fiscal year.** The Office of the AG anticipates an indeterminable, but minimal increase in SGF expenditures associated with potential investigation or enforcement actions related to consumer protection violations involving vision plans.

LDI (\$323,625 SGR):

Personnel Costs (\$296,604 SGR):

LDI reports that salaries and related benefits associated with the three (3) additional Insurance Specialist 3 T.O. positions will total \$296,604, including \$190,872 in salary and \$105,732 in related benefits for FY 27. A 4% percent growth factor is applied to these personnel costs in subsequent fiscal years.

Operating Expenses (\$18,351 SGR):

In addition, LDI anticipates operating expenses of \$18,351 in FY 27, including office supplies (\$1,932), postage (\$411), telephone/data ports (\$1,062), printing (\$300), equipment maintenance (\$1,542), security (\$3,285), software licenses (\$4,320) and fees (\$5,499). These operating expenses are also projected to increase by 4% annually beginning in FY 28.

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Proposed law provides that the commissioner of insurance may sanction an insurer or vision benefit manager, including unspecified fines and other remedies deemed appropriate, which may result in an indeterminable SGR increase.

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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CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:

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EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Equipment Costs (\$8,670):

LDI further estimates the purchase of one-time equipment costs of \$8,670 in FY 27, including desks (\$1,650), chairs (\$1,050), personal computers/printers (\$4,500), and file cabinets (\$1,470). These costs are not anticipated to recur in subsequent fiscal years.

Note: The LFO is unable to corroborate the estimated staffing level, operating expenses, and equipment costs projected by LDI. The LFO has requested LDI to provide detailed information on the assumptions and rationale used to estimate the additional T.O. positions needed to implement the requirements of this legislation. To the extent the required staffing levels may be lower or higher, corresponding operating costs would shift accordingly. To the extent that a portion or 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

	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
Position					
Insurance Specialist 3 (3 T.O.)	\$296,604	\$308,468	\$320,807	\$333,639	\$346,984
Operating Expenses	\$18,351	\$19,085	\$19,848	\$20,642	\$21,468
Equipment	\$10,770	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$325,725	\$327,553	\$340,655	\$354,281	\$368,452
T.O.	3	3	3	3	3

Senate Dual Referral Rules
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
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 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

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