



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **SB 123** SLS 26RS 333
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action: **w/ #2 HSE COMM AMD**
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 11, 2026	3:53 PM	Author: MORRIS, JAY
Dept./Agy.: Executive and Legislative		Analyst: Julie Silva
Subject: Jacob Carter Act		

GOVERNOR EG2 INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1

Constitutional amendment to require the governor to certify a legislative address removing certain judges for cause. (2/3 - CA13s1(A))

Proposed constitutional amendment revises the process for removing certain judges from office. It requires the governor to certify the removal of an elected or temporarily appointed district, juvenile, family, parish, municipal, or court of appeal judge, or a Louisiana Supreme Court justice, after a formal legislative address recommending removal has passed and the Senate has conducted a trial in which the judge may present a defense to the stated cause for removal. Judges removed under this process are permanently barred from holding judicial office in Louisiana, and the measure does not limit existing removal powers under impeachment or the Louisiana Supreme Court. To be submitted to the electors at the statewide election to be held on 4/17/27.

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	\$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 constitutional amendment may result in additional state expenditures, primarily associated with conducting Senate trials in which judges, including district, juvenile, family, parish, municipal, or court of appeal judges, or a Louisiana Supreme Court justice, may present a defense to the stated cause for removal included in a legislative address. Any increase is indeterminable and would depend on the number of judges subject to removal proceedings and the timing of any trials held.

If a trial is held during a legislative session, the anticipated expenditures outlined below will be mitigated. Actual impacts will depend on the number of judges for whom a legislative address for removal is issued each year and the number of Senate trials conducted for those judges. Impacts are expected to be relatively low, though they could increase significantly if multiple judges are removed in the same fiscal year.

Legislators are eligible to receive per diem and travel reimbursements for meetings held outside of legislative sessions. While the proposed constitutional amendment does not directly address whether these payments will be offered in the event a trial is held, for the purposes of this fiscal note, it is assumed they would and the current per diem rate of \$178 is used to determine potential expenditures. If all 39 state senators attend a trial, the per diem cost is expected to total \$6,942. Actual per diem costs will be dependent on the per diem rate in effect at the time of a trial, the number and duration of any trials held and the number of senators who attend. In addition to per diem, senators are eligible to receive travel reimbursements. Currently, the reimbursement rate for mileage is \$0.725 per mile. Actual expenditures for travel are dependent on the number and duration of any trials they attended and the actual reimbursement rate for mileage in effect at the time of a trial.


Note: In certain circumstances, the Secretary of State may incur minimal ballot processing costs associated with this measure. As a regular practice, the department budgets for up to 10 constitutional amendments and statewide propositions for the fall statewide elections. To the extent the ballot includes more than 10 constitutional amendments and statewide propositions, the Secretary of State may require additional SGF resources for the 4/17/27 statewide election. Any expenditure impact would be realized in FY 27.

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}


Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer