

## OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 528** HLS 15RS 285

Author: LEGER

Bill Text Version: **REENGROSSED** 

Opp. Chamb. Action: Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For .:

**Date:** May 28, 2015 1:48 PM

**Dept./Agy.:** City of New Orleans

Subject: Municipal revenue amnesty program

Analyst: Robbie Robinson

MUNICIPALITIES/NO RE SEE FISC NOTE LF RV See Note
Authorizes the city of New Orleans to create a municipal revenue amnesty program

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**Purpose of Bill:** This measure, upon the initiative of the Mayor, authorizes the City of New Orleans to establish a municipal revenue amnesty program. The program may provide for the waiver of delinquent fines, fees, and assessments owed to the City and the waiver of all or a uniform percentage of interest, collection costs, and penalties owed. The City Director of Finance must adopt rules and regulations for the operation and administration of the program and annually report to the Mayor the persons participating in the program. The annual report must also provide the types of fees, fines and assessments for which amnesty was provided and, for each type of fine, fee, or assessment, the amount collected and the amount of interest, collection costs, and penalties forgone by virtue of the program. The New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board and other political subdivisions in the City, through the Mayor, may participate in the municipal revenue amnesty program.

EXPENDITURES	<u> 2015-16</u>	<u> 2016-17</u>	<u> 2017-18</u>	<u> 2018-19</u>	<u> 2019-20</u>	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					
Annual Total						
REVENUES	<u> 2015-16</u>	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	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					
Annual Total						

## **EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

This bill may result in an increase in local governmental expenditures, however, the impact is indeterminable at this time.

The bill requires the City Director of Finance to adopt rules and regulations for the amnesty program. An Official with the City of New Orleans provided that the Director of Finance will need to draft all regulations over a period of approximately one year. The process will require individual examination of the legal authority, delinquent status, administrative practicality, system capabilities, and the likelihood of success relative to each fine, fee, or assessment. The Official estimates that the amnesty program will last one year or shorter and will not be repeated. The Official also provided that the amnesty program will result in additional costs. These costs, whether internal or contractual, can only be estimated once the program has been designed and there is a clear understanding of the program's complexity.

## **REVENUE EXPLANATION**

Change {S&H}

This bill may result in an increase in local governmental revenues, however, the impact is indeterminable at this time.

An Official with the City of New Orleans provided that the City of New Orleans exercised its legal authority in 2009 under the Home Rule Charter to undertake an amnesty program for delinquent sales taxes. Based on a review of the 2009 and similar past amnesty programs by the City of New Orleans, the Official estimates that the amnesty program will result in some revenue gain. At this point the Official provided that due to the nature of the revenues targeted under the amnesty program and other factors such as the length, terms, and fact that a plan has not yet been designed, it is very difficult to estimate the revenue increase until the amnesty program regulations are established.

<u> </u>	\$500.000 Annual Tax or Fee			Michael G. Batt	
13.5.1 >=	\$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S8	kH}		11. 6.	Battle
<u>Senate</u>	<u>Dual Referral Rules</u>	<u>House</u>	$6.8(F)(1) >= $100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}$	//	

or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Manager, Advisory Services