



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: HB 69 HLS 15RS 111
Bill Text Version: REENGROSSED
Opp. Chamb. Action: W/ SEN FLOOR AMD
Proposed Amd.:
Sub. Bill For.:

Date: June 4, 2015 4:59 PM Author: JAMES
Dept./Agy.: Baton Rouge City Court Analyst: Bobby Trahan
Subject: Court Technology Fee

COURTS/CITY REF SEE FISC NOTE LF See Note Page 1 of 1
Provides for the collection of additional court costs in Baton Rouge City Court to fund technology enhancements

Purpose of Bill: Allows the Clerk of Baton Rouge City Court in civil matters and Judges in all criminal cases to impose an additional fee not to exceed \$10. These fees shall be deposited into a separate account known as the "Court Technology Fund" and expended solely to acquire and maintain a new and existing electronic case management system.

As required by state law, the City Court of Baton Rouge submitted a proposal to the Judicial Review Council to review their proposed fee increase. The Judicial Review Council has reviewed their proposal and found that the proposed costs appear to meet the applicable guidelines.

An amendment to the bill adds provisions relative to the judicial building fund of the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans.

Table with 7 columns: EXPENDITURES, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 5 -YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total.

Table with 7 columns: REVENUES, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 5 -YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total.

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

There may be an increase in local fund expenditures by the Baton Rouge City Court as collected fees are used to defray costs to obtain and maintain an electronic case management system.

An official with the Baton Rouge City Court indicated the funds would be used for annual system maintenance costs and annual software licensing fees.

An amendment relative to the judicial building fund of the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans allows for lease of a facility for use as a courthouse as an alternative to construction.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

This measure may increase local fund revenues by approximately \$484,000 per year for Baton Rouge City Court.

Based on information provided by the Baton Rouge City Court, there is an average of 14,725 civil cases filed each year and an average of 33,650 convictions for criminal and traffic offenses each year. Therefore, if the full \$10 is assessed, the Court would collect approximately \$484,000 annually. An official with the Baton Rouge City Court indicated that the Court intends to only assess \$5, which would bring in approximately \$ 242,000 annually.

An amendment relative to the judicial building fund of the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans extends the date by which certain actions must occur before additional charges terminate and allows for lease of a facility for use as a courthouse as an alternative to construction.

- Senate Dual Referral Rules House
[ ] 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
[X] 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}
[ ] 6.8(F)(2) >= \$500,000 Rev. Red. to State {H & S}
[ ] 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}
[ ] 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Signature of Michael G. Battle
Michael G. Battle
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