

## OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR Fiscal Note

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

Bill Text Version: ENROLLED

Opp. Chamb. Action: Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For .:

Date: June 12, 2015 12:31 PM Author: LEGER

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

Subject: Municipal revenue amnesty program

Analyst: Whit Kling

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

Page 1 of 1

**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 all or a uniform percentage of interest, collection costs, and penalties owed to the city on delinquent fines, fees, and assessments. The City Director of Finance must adopt rules and regulations for the operation and administration of the program and report, at the conclusion of the program, to the Mayor relative to the persons participating in the program. The annual report must also provide the types of fees, fines and assessments for which interest, collection costs, and penalties were owed and, for each type of fine, fee, or assessment the amount of interest, collections 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 once every eight calendar years.

EXPENDITURES	<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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	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.

An amendment provides that the rules and regulations may authorize the city to issue request for proposals in order to procure a third-party contractor to mange the program. The amendment limits the amount of fees paid to the contractor to no more than 15% of the total amount collected. These fees can not be estimated at this time.

## **REVENUE EXPLANATION**

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. In addition, the bill as amended provides that the program cannot extend for more than sixty calendar days once every eight years. Therefore, the revenue impact will be limited to that restrictive period.

<u>Senate</u>	<u>Dual Referral Rules</u>	<u>House</u>	$\bigcirc$ 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}	11	
13.5.1 >=	\$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&	ιH}		11.	5. Battle
13.5.2 >=	\$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee			Michael G. B	Battle
	Change {S&H}		or a Net Fee Decrease {S}	Manager, Ad	dvisory Services