OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE	AUDITOR					
	Fiscal Note On: HB 600 HLS 16RS 374					
A CONTRACTOR	Bill Text Version: REENGROSSED					
	Opp. Chamb. Action:					
	Proposed Amd.:					
ALSOH OFES	Sub. Bill For.:					
Date: May 16, 2016 1:25 PM	Author: LEGER					
Dept./Agy.: Municipal & Traffic Court of New Orleans						
Subject: Divisions of court, Judges' qualifications, salaries, & costs	Analyst: David Greer					
Subject: Divisions of court, Judges qualifications, salaries, & costs						

COURTS

RE +\$56,500 LF EX See Note

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Provides for the Municipal and Traffic Court of New Orleans

Purpose of the Bill: Provides the qualifications and salaries for municipal and traffic court judges; abolishes one judgeship effective in 2021; provides for appointment and compensation of ad hoc judge; provides for appointment of court reporter; provides for police officers to keep order and execute decrees of the judges; and addresses court costs.

EXPENDITURES	<u>2016-17</u>	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>5 -YEAR TOTAL</u>
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$31,829)	(\$31,829)
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	<u>\$28,250</u>	<u>\$56,500</u>	<u>\$56,500</u>	<u>\$56,500</u>	<u>(\$127,268)</u>	<u>\$70,482</u>
Annual Total	\$28,250	\$56,500	\$56,500	\$56,500	(\$159,097)	\$38,653
REVENUES	<u>2016-17</u>	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>5 -YEAR TOTAL</u>
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.						
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 measure may increase local government expenditures by \$56,500 per year and decrease state and local expenditures in Fiscal Year 2021.

According to a representative of the New Orleans Municipal Court, two division judges will receive salary and benefits increases totaling \$56,500 annually, beginning in January 2017, to bring them to the same salary as a district court judge in and for the parish of Orleans. Two judges, the current administrative judges of the traffic court and municipal court, are already receiving salary and benefits at this level. Beginning in January 2022, three other division judges will receive increases to the level of a district court judge in and for the parish of Orleans.

In January 2021, one judgeship will be abolished which will decrease expenditures by \$431,195 annually (\$367,536 local funding and \$63,659 state funding). The 1/2 year calculations for 2021 that are shown above are: State Funds \$63,659/2 = \$31,829 and Local Funds \$367,536/2 = \$183,768 - \$56,500 (annual increase) = \$127,268.

Amendments to this measure address the staffing within the court. The Judicial Administrator of the Municipal Court provided that impacted employees will be reassigned to the Clerk's/Administrator's office, therefore there will be no fiscal impact.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

This measure may decrease local government revenue.

According to a representative of the New Orleans Municipal Court and based on 2015 collections, the changes to R.S. 13:2500.2 will result in a \$150,000 annual decrease in traffic court collections and an indeterminable increase in municipal court costs due to the assessment of additional costs for every offense. Currently the traffic court collects costs on every offense, however, the municipal court collects costs on every case. The municipal court does not have data on the number of offenses, therefore, we cannot provide an amount of the potential increase in revenue.



G. Battle

Manager, Advisory Services