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	May 16, 2017	3:51 PM	A	Author: JAMES			
Dept./Agy.:	Revenue		_	Analyst: Jodi Mauroner			

TAX/TAX REBATES

EG DECREASE GF RV See Note

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Authorizes a rebate for taxpayers who donate to certain higher education scholarship and grant programs

Proposed law provides a rebate for donations made by a taxpayer to the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA), which are used for post secondary education scholarships or grants to students who are eligible to receive a Louisiana Go Grant, not to include administrative costs. Not more than two percent of each donation shall be used by LOSFA for administrative costs. LOSFA may retain and carry forward donations in perpetuity or for a stated period of time which shall be not less than one year.

EXPENDITURES	<u>2017-18</u>	2018-19	2019-20	<u>2020-21</u>	2021-22	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total						
REVENUES	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	2021-22	<u>5 -YEAR TOTAL</u>
State Gen. Fd.	DECREASE	DECREASE	DECREASE	DECREASE	DECREASE	
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>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

## **EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

There will be an indeterminable increase in expenditures of LOSFA to administer the scholarship awards. The extent of the increase will be determined by the amount of donations and scholarships awarded. These costs may be covered by an allocation of the donation amount not to exceed 2% for administrative costs.

## **REVENUE EXPLANATION**

To the extent individuals or businesses make contributions to LOSFA and claim reimbursement, payments will be made by the Department of Revenue (DOR) before deposit of tax collections into the state treasury, and charged against gross state tax collections (most likely the personal and corporate income tax). Net collections available for deposit in the state treasury will be reduced.

Program reimbursements are indeterminable and will depend upon the level of participation by taxpayers and students. Proposed legislation mimics the school tuition donation rebate program authorized by ACT 25 of 2012. The STO program has demonstrated considerable growth in the four years since it began. Like the STO, the program proposed here has no annual aggregate maximum amount of reimbursement.

In addition to the state rebate, a 2011 memo issued by the Office of the Chief Counsel of the Internal Revenue Service determined that notwithstanding the state rebate amount, individuals and businesses may claim a donation to a STO program as a charitable contribution on their federal income tax. This federal tax benefit may be applicable to donations as contemplated by this bill. This added tax benefit could encourage individuals and businesses to make donations to this program further increasing the state's exposure.

