



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **SB 1** SLS 243ES 12
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: November 7, 2024 8:41 AM	Author: MORRIS, JAY
Dept./Agy.: Supreme Court/Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board	
Subject: Attorney Discipline/Jurisdiction of Courts	Analyst: Daniel Druilhet

COURTS OR SEE FISC NOTE GF EX Page 1 of 1
 Constitutional amendment to provide for jurisdiction of courts. (2/3 - CA13s1(A)) (Item #20)

Current law provides that the Supreme Court shall have exclusive jurisdiction of disciplinary proceedings against a member of the bar; provides that the legislature may establish trial courts and courts of limited or specialized jurisdiction with parish-wide territorial jurisdiction and subject matter jurisdiction uniform throughout the state; provides for the original jurisdiction of district courts. Proposed law allows the Supreme Court to also have exclusive jurisdiction of disciplinary proceedings against an attorney from another jurisdiction concerning legal services to the state, including related unethical practices; authorizes establishment of trial courts of limited or specialized jurisdiction by law enacted by 2/3 of the elected members of each house of the legislature; provides that except as authorized in the constitution, the district court has exclusive original jurisdiction involving felony cases and cases involving immovable property as provided in the current constitution; provides that the proposed law (constitutional amendment) shall be submitted to voters at a statewide election to be held on 11/15/25 or at another statewide election authorized by law, whichever occurs first.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	\$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	\$0	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	\$0
Annual Total	\$0					\$0
REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may result in an overall net increase in SGF expenditures in the Supreme Court, to the extent it conducts additional disciplinary proceedings of attorneys from other jurisdictions and creates additional courts of specialized jurisdiction.

Supreme Court - Proposed law may result in an increase in SGF expenditures in the Supreme Court, to the extent that any additional investigations are allowed for disciplinary proceedings against an attorney from another jurisdiction. The Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board (LADB) has the exclusive authority to investigate complaints involving attorney discipline and may sustain additional workload, though it is unknown the extent to which added investigations would result in any additional expenditures.

Note: Information provided by the Supreme Court suggests that it could possibly absorb these costs, unless the LADB determines that conducting additional investigations of attorneys from other jurisdictions would substantially add to their workload. The LFO has contacted the LADB seeking information on costs incurred to conduct investigations involving attorney discipline and misconduct and will update this fiscal note as information becomes available.

Proposed law may also result in an indeterminable increase in SGF expenditures in the Supreme Court, to the extent that new courts of specialized jurisdiction are created. Costs to create courts of specialized jurisdiction are variable, and any estimated fiscal impact is contingent on the number and type of courts created. Also, the LFO is unclear as to whether the proposed law intends to create courts of specialized jurisdiction that will result in utilizing existing judges and staff performing the duties associated with the courts of specialized jurisdiction, which may impact expenditures to courts.

Note: The LFO has requested that the Supreme Court provide information on costs associated with creating courts of specialized jurisdiction and will provide that information as it becomes available.


Note: The Department of State may incur additional election costs to place constitutional amendments on the ballot on November 15, 2025. The department has estimated a budget of approximately \$4.1 M in FY 26 for the November election. At this time, no statewide initiatives are contemplated in the budget. If a statewide election is required for voters to contemplate constitutional amendments or other statewide measures, the Department of State will require an additional appropriation in FY 26. The estimated cost of holding a statewide election is \$7 M. An additional \$2.9 M would be needed to transition the election to a statewide election for all parishes and precincts.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

Senate Dual Referral Rules
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}


Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer