

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE**  
**Fiscal Note**



Fiscal Note On: **SB 45** SLS 26RS 103

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> March 9, 2026	5:33 PM	<b>Author:</b> WHEAT
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Louisiana Department of Health/Office of Public Health		<b>Analyst:</b> Anthony Shamis
<b>Subject:</b> Exemption of certain organizations from hospice licensure		

HEALTH SERVICES

OR SEE FISC NOTE GF EX

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Provides relative to hospice care. (gov sig)

Proposed law exempts nonprofit organizations that provide gratuitous end-of-life care to terminally ill patients in a home-like setting from hospice licensure if the organization meets certain requirements. Proposed law requires that any organization that meets the required criteria be treated as the patient's place of residence for purposes of home hospice care. Any medications prescribed for the patient in accordance with the patient's plan of care shall be delivered, stored, and administered in the same manner as if the patient was in a home setting. Proposed law requires that the patient's licensed hospice provider prepares and manages the patient's plan of care. Proposed law provides that an individual designated by the organization as the patient's caregiver may perform any delegated tasks in the same manner as a family member serving as the caregiver in a home setting. Licensing credentials shall not prevent the individual from performing tasks in a caregiver capacity. A licensed healthcare professional may delegate tasks to an individual serving as a caregiver in accordance with the patient's plan of care. A licensed healthcare professional who delegates caregiver tasks in accordance with provisions of this measure and who is acting in good faith with reasonable care shall be immune from disciplinary or adverse administrative actions from the individual's respective licensing board. Effective upon signature by the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	<b>SEE BELOW</b>					
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>

**Annual Total**

REVENUES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law may increase SGF expenditures within the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), Health Standards Section (HSS), by an indeterminable but minimal amount associated with investigations of complaints involving certain nonprofit entities exempted from hospice licensure under this measure. According to LDH, any additional workload related to complaint investigations can be absorbed using existing staff and resources.

Information provided by LDH indicates that if HSS receives a complaint alleging that an entity is providing hospice services without a license, HSS would be required to conduct an onsite Verification of Operation (VOO) inspection to determine whether the entity is exempt from licensure under the proposed law. LDH estimates the cost of each VOO inspection at approximately \$340 (\$85 per hour for four hours), inclusive of travel time and report preparation. To the extent HSS is required to conduct VOO inspections in response to such complaints, SGF expenditures will increase by approximately \$340 per inspection.

*Note: The expenditure impact is indeterminable at this time, as the number of VOO inspections resulting from complaints alleging that entities are providing hospice services without a license is unknown.*

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure. LDH reports that HSS does not have regulatory authority over unlicensed facilities and therefore cannot assess penalties or fines for violations.

Senate

Dual Referral Rules

House

13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}

6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {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}

*Alan M. Boxberger*

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**Legislative Fiscal Officer**