

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 676** HLS 26RS 450
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 15, 2026 10:52 AM	Author: SPELL, ANNIE
Dept./Agy.: Corrections, Sheriffs, and Department of Health	
Subject: Fraudulent Patient Referrals / Body Brokering	Analyst: Daniel Druilhet

CRIME EG SEE FISC NOTE GF EX Page 1 of 1
 Creates the crime of fraudulent patient referrals or "body brokering"

Proposed law provides for the crime of fraudulent patient referrals (body brokering); provides that no person shall knowingly or intentionally, directly, or indirectly, overtly or covertly, in cash or in kind (1) solicit, offer, pay, or receive any fee, payment, rebate, or commission, including but not limited to kickbacks to or from a person for the referral of a patient to a residential substance abuse facility, mental health facility, or a facility licensed for substance use disorder treatment or services or (2) assist, conspire with, urge, or market to any person to make, furnish, or receive any fee, payment, rebate, or commission, including but not limited to bribes or kickbacks for the referral of a patient to a residential substance abuse facility, mental health facility, or a facility licensed for substance use disorder treatment or services; provides for exceptions; assesses a sentence of imprisonment of no more than five years, with or without hard labor, or a fine of no more than \$50,000, or both, for those in violation; assesses additional penalties, including suspension of revocation of his license or other credentials by the appropriate board, a civil fine of no more than \$25,000, assessed by LDH, and full restitution to the victim and any other person who has suffered a financial loss as a result of the offense.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
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

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

Annual Total

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Department of Public Safety and Corrections-Corrections Services

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in SGF expenditures in the Department of Public Safety & Corrections-Corrections Services (DPS&C-CS), to the extent that a person is convicted of fraudulent patient referrals (or body brokering). Proposed law is a relative felony, and any impact on either state or local expenditures is contingent on whether offenders sustain either a misdemeanor or felony-grade convictions for their violation. The exact fiscal impact to DPS&C-CS is indeterminable, as it is unknown how many people will be convicted or the length of the sentences assessed with those convictions as a result of its potential enactment. The maximum imprisonment term is no more than five years.

To the extent that offenders sustain a felony-grade conviction for violation of the proposed law, DPS&C-CS will sustain an indeterminable increase in expenditures. For those convicted, sentenced, and then subsequently housed in a state facility, DPS&C-CS will sustain expenditures of \$107.60 per offender per day. For those housed in local facilities, DPS&C-CS will sustain expenditures of \$29.39 per offender per day. DPS&C-CS advises that impacts on offender populations are anticipated to impact the number of offenders held in local facilities, and that in managing its offender population, it seeks to fill all beds in state facilities first, then assigns overflow offenders to local facilities.

To the extent that offenders sustain a misdemeanor conviction for violation of the proposed law, local governing authorities will sustain Local Funds expenditures. The exact fiscal impact of the passage of this legislation to local governing authorities is indeterminable, since it is not known how many people will be convicted and incarcerated in local facilities, nor the length of the sentences assessed with those convictions as a result of its potential enactment.

District Courts

Proposed law may result in an increase in workload in the district courts, to the extent that they experience an increase in filings for civil actions pursued after convictions as a result of the proposed law. The exact fiscal impact relative to the increase in workload is indeterminable, because it is unknown the number of instances in which civil actions would be filed (and the related hearings conducted) for these matters.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in Statutory Dedications in the Louisiana Department of Health's Health Care Facility Fund. Revenues will be derived from applicable civil fines assessed against health care facilities, health care providers, persons, or residential substance abuse facilities held culpable for fraudulent patient referrals. The exact fiscal impact to the Louisiana Department of Health is indeterminable, because it is unknown the number of instances in which the agency will assess civil fines for related convictions of the proposed law.

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