



OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: SB 158 SLS 11RS 184

Bill Text Version: ORIGINAL

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Table with 2 rows and 2 columns. Row 1: Date: May 3, 2011 8:50 AM, Author: MURRAY. Row 2: Dept./Agy.: Municipal Court of New Orleans, Analyst: Steven Kraemer. Subject: Expenditures of the Court.

COURTS OR SEE FISC NOTE LF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
Provides relative to Municipal Court of New Orleans. (8/15/11)

Purpose of Bill: This bill contains provisions regarding the salary of the senior and administrative judge for the Municipal Court of New Orleans (court). This bill also establishes the position of Judicial Administrator and the Judicial expense fund for the court. Finally, this bill contains provisions regarding: (1) the payment of operating expenses; (2) the remitting and administration of certain court costs; (3) the transfer of bail bond fees to the judicial expense fund; and (4) the remitting of fines on a monthly basis.

Table with 7 columns: EXPENDITURES, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 5 -YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agcy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total. Similar structure for REVENUES.

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Although many provisions of this bill appear to incorporate current practice in to state law, the bill may decrease local fund expenditures.

An official with Municipal Court of New Orleans indicated that this bill would not have an impact on the expenditures of the court as most of the bill's provisions are currently in practice by the court.

However, this bill changes the salary structure for the senior and administrative judge for the court allowing the governing authority of Orleans Parish to set the salary of the judge between a certain range. This may have an impact on the amount paid by the City of New Orleans for the judge's salary -- this could decrease expenditures.

It appears that any impact from this bill on state expenditures would be limited to the portion of the administrative judge's salary paid by the state.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

This bill may increase local government revenues, but does provide for a change in how revenues are administered. Current law provides that certain funds will be deposited in the municipal court judicial expense fund by the New Orleans Director of Finance. Proposed law provides that such fees will be deposited in this fund by the Municipal Court Judicial Administrator. We do not anticipate a change in revenues because of this change in law.

In addition, the bail bond fee will be forfeited after one year and deposited into the judicial expense fund. This could result in an increase in revenues. Based on our conversation with a Municipal Court official, the amount of money administered may be approximately \$3,000 annually.