



**OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **HB 229** HLS 23RS 395
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 25, 2023 5:44 PM	Author: MAGEE
Dept./Agy.: Clerks of Courts/Louisiana Clerks' Remote Access Authority	Analyst: James Bryant
Subject: Electronic Filing & Authority Governance	

COURTS OR SEE FISC NOTE LF EX Page 1 of 1
 Provides relative to electronic filings

Purpose of Bill: This bill requires that every clerk of court provide information to the Louisiana Clerks' Remote Access Authority (LCRAA) about the software, electronic filing capabilities, costs, and funding required to complete an integrated electronic filing system for their parish. This information will be compiled by LCRAA and submitted to the Legislature by January 1, 2024. Furthermore, the LCRAA is required to develop an integrated electronic filing system that all clerks of courts must have in place by January 1, 2025. The system is to include electronic document filing, case management, and document and image management capabilities. The bill requires existing recording fees to be used to fund this system. All documents in a civil, traffic, or criminal action filed by an attorney must be transmitted electronically using this system starting January 1, 2025. Additionally, this bill expands the LCRAA board of commissioners from 7 to 11 members, adding 1 justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court and 3 judges from district courts.

EXPENDITURES	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Annual Total						

REVENUES	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Annual Total						

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

This bill may increase local fund expenditures for Clerks of Courts and LCRAA by an indeterminable amount.

Information gathered from LCRAA, the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association, and various parish Clerks of Court indicates that there may be increased costs to develop and implement the statewide integrated electronic filing system provided for by this bill by January 1, 2025 (equipment, software development, etc.).

One of the requirements of this bill is that every Clerk of Court provide information to the LCRAA about the software, electronic filing capabilities, costs, and funding required to complete an integrated electronic filing system for their parish. Therefore, it appears that overall cost estimates would have to be considered and reported to LCRAA in order to estimate an overall fiscal impact.

While the potential expenditure impact is indeterminable at this time, the Clerks Association provided an example of the development of a statewide electronic filing system in North Carolina. The North Carolina Office of the Courts signed a ten-year \$85 million software contract in 2019 to implement the system.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

In order to provide fiscal background information, the LCRAA's FY 2022 Audit reported \$2,027,955 in fee receipts from members.

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| <u>Senate</u> | <u>Dual Referral Rules</u> | <u>House</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H} | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S} |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H} | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S} |

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