



**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE  
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **HB 977** HLS 24RS 2967  
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.: **HB 680**

<b>Date:</b> April 30, 2024	10:05 AM	<b>Author:</b> CARLSON
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Division of Administration/State Register/Statewide		
<b>Subject:</b> Official Journal		<b>Analyst:</b> Kimberly Fruge

PUBLIC PRINTING EG SEE FISC NOTE EX Page 1 of 1  
 Provides for official journals for the state and political subdivisions and for publishing legal notices

Current law requires the state to select a newspaper as the "Official Journal of the State." Proposed law allows the Commissioner of Administration to select the State Register's website or a website designated by the State Register as the state's official journal.

Proposed law also provides for various changes to the selection of the official journal for political subdivisions, parishes and municipalities, and school boards including: allowing for an expanded required publication period in certain circumstances; providing special cases for new deserts; and, adjusts the qualifications for local news papers.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	
<b>Annual Total</b>						
REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	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	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	<b>SEE BELOW</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>						

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law will have an indeterminable impact on state and local government expenditures. Proposed law allows the Commissioner of Administration to select the State Register's website or a website designated by the State Register as the Official Journal of the State. The Division of Administration reports that the anticipated volume of official public notices should be absorbable with existing resources; however, if the demand for publication is greater than anticipated the Office of the State Register may need an additional T.O. position and/or additional software to facilitate the submissions by agencies. The potential increase in costs is unknown at this time. The Office of State Register bills agencies for services. Therefore, the LFO assumes any increase in costs will be covered by fees the register charges for publication.

To the extent the State Register is selected as the Official Journal of the State and can charge less than state departments and agencies are current paying a newspaper to publish official notices, the state may realize some cost savings, assumed in this fiscal note to be SGF. Any such cost savings is indeterminable at this time.

Proposed law also provides for various changes to the selection process of the official journal for parishes, municipalities, school boards, and other political subdivisions. If the various adjustments provided for in proposed law allow a local governmental unit to select a newspaper that charges less than what they are currently using, then costs to local governments will decrease accordingly. Any such cost savings is indeterminable at this time.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law may result in an increase in IAT revenues for the Office of State Register. The State Register bills agencies for services provided. The LFO assumes any increase in IAT revenues will be used to offset the increase in expenditures.

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**