

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE

Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **SB 607** SLS 06RS 117
 Bill Text Version: **REENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Sub. Bill For.:
 Proposed Amd.:

Date: June 5, 2006 9:17 AM	Author: FONTENOT
Dept./Agy.: Executive/GOHSEP	Analyst: Evan Brasseaux
Subject: Disaster Operation Plan	

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS RE INCREASE SD EX See Note Page 1 of 2
 Provides relative to a disaster operation plan for service animals and household pets. (gov sig)

The proposed legislation requires the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) to identify or establish evacuation shelters that are in close proximity to a human sheltering facility designed and equipped to accept and temporarily house the household pets of evacuees and canine search and rescue teams. Shall establish an identification system to ensure that household pet owners who are separated from their household pets are provided with all information necessary to locate and reclaim such household pet. GOHSEP shall implement a public information program to provide guidance to household pet owners in formulating their own evacuation plans for their household pets and service animals. Public transportation may be utilized to transport household pets during an impending disaster, when doing so does not endanger human life. The provisions of this Act shall become effective if and only if funds for the purposes provided for in this Act are appropriated from the State Emergency Response Fund.

EXPENDITURES	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

REVENUES	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	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	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The proposed legislation will result in a significant increase in expenditures if and only if funds for the purposes provided for in this Act are appropriated from the State Emergency Response Fund. The LFO bases the potential costs on an event which would result in the sheltering of approximately 10,000 animals for seven days in a total of five shelters based in Shreveport, Monroe, Alexandria, Baton Rouge, and Lafayette. The projected costs are as follows:

1) Dept. of Agriculture- (\$1.88 million) This includes approximately \$150,000 in personnel costs associated with the provisions of this legislation and includes a half-time IT person, a full-time veterinarian trained in emergency preparedness, and an additional secretarial position.

Also includes \$135,000 for 24 hour veterinarian staffing. This figure includes payment of twenty-four hour staffing at an hourly rate of \$75/hour for seven days for five shelters. In addition, this also includes \$72,000 for 24 relief veterinarians to cover clinics while vets work in the shelters (\$50/hr. x 10 hr. days x 6 days x 24 clinics).

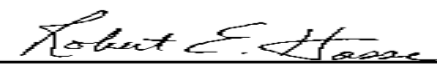
The legislation also requires that an identification system be adopted to ensure that household pet owners who are separated from their pets during an evacuation are provided with all information necessary to locate and reclaim such pets. The Dept. of Agriculture notes that a microchip could be implanted in each animal at a cost of approximately \$10/animal. This cost is included below as part of the \$160/animal sheltering cost. This cost could be reduced by the total number of animals which already have these chips implanted. This cost could be reduced entirely if an existing system were to be provided for this purpose. Best Friends, Inc. notes that it would provide a system to the state at no cost. The LFO is uncertain as to whether this system would provide the necessary capabilities which are required by this legislation.

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REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

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


Robert E. Hosse
LFO Staff Director

Expenditure Explanation ctd

Shelter costs are anticipated to be approximately \$1.6 million. This is based upon a cost of \$160/animals/7 days x 5 shelters. This total includes building rent, labor, equipment, electricity, food, etc. These figures do not include veterinarian's supply costs or costs that may be incurred should any animals need surgery while in shelters. Also, the building rent projections could be significantly higher than projected if facilities such as Lamar-Dixon or the John Parker Coliseum on the LSU-BR campus are used as shelters.

The Department of Agriculture notes that the cost of the Lamar-Dixon facility was \$6,000 per day and over \$300,000 was spent for the John Parker Coliseum for the time in which this space was utilized. All costs associated with sheltering are anticipated to increase annually.

2) DOTD- \$2.16 million (Transportation -\$625,000/event each way plus \$850,000 for cages and additional staffer at \$60,000) DOTD anticipates contracting for vehicles for the transportation of 10,000 animals. In addition, DOTD estimates that approximately 10,000 cages would be purchased at a cost of \$850,000 (one-time expense). Should DOTD and the Department of Agriculture need storage costs for these cages, additional costs will be incurred. Finally, DOTD would require an additional planner for these events at a cost of approximately \$60,000 annually.

3) Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness- would require a planner to spend approximately one month per year and one week per occurrence on this issue. This additional workload may be addressed with existing staff.

This fiscal note assumes a total cost based on 10,000 animals (approximate number sheltered during Hurricane Katrina) evacuated per event. Therefore, for example, if a total of 20,000 animals were required to be evacuated, the figures shown above would be multiplied by two. Similarly, if fewer animals were to be evacuated, a percentage of the total costs shown above could be determined.

This legislation provides that "the provisions of this Act shall become effective if and only if funds for the purposes provided for in this Act are appropriated from the State Emergency Response Fund". However, to the extent that private organizations assume any portion of this financial burden, state general fund expenditures will be reduced accordingly. However, it must be assumed that should a number of events of this nature occur over a period of time, financial resources from the private sector may not be available on an ongoing basis and therefore, may require complete state support.

The LFO has discussed this issue with representatives from Best Friends, Inc. who have stated that pet organizations would support sheltering events in Louisiana in the future. The LFO is not aware of any written agreements between this organization and the state of Louisiana in this regard. Therefore, the LFO has provided above the potential state outlay per event should it bear the entire burden of sheltering animals in an emergency. Again, state general fund expenditures will be reduced to the extent that private support is available.

Senate Dual Referral Rules

13.5.1 >= \$500,000 Annual Fiscal Cost

13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change

House

6.8(F) >= \$500,000 Annual Fiscal Cost

6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease



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LFO Staff Director