

January 2024

**Economic Impact Statements for Proposed Rules**

The corresponding proposed rule to each of the statements below may be viewed in its entirety in the January 20, 2024 *Louisiana Register*. Each *Louisiana Register* edition is published on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

<b>Promulgating Agency</b>	<b>Proposed Rule Title</b>	<b>Estimated Costs and/or Economic Benefits to Directly Affected Persons, Small Businesses or Nongovernmental Groups</b>
<b>Board of Veterinary Medicine</b>	<b>Meetings</b>	The proposed rule change will help make meeting participation more accessible for members of the public or the board who have ADA-recognized disabilities. The proposed rule may result in travel savings to certain members of the public with disabilities as they can now participate in the meeting virtually.
<b>Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters</b>	<b>Employment Relationship with Court Reporting Firm</b>	The proposed rule revision will not result in any increase in costs to court reporters and will not provide any economic benefits directly to court reporters. The proposed rule revision might result in a negligible reduction in costs to court reporters because they will no longer be required to file a schedule of charges in submitting the Safe Harbor Affidavit.
<b>Board of Examiners of Certified Shorthand Reporters</b>	<b>Whistleblower Reporting</b>	The proposed policy will not result in any increase in costs to court reporters and will not provide any economic benefits directly to court reporters.
<b>Office of Broadband Development and Connectivity</b>	<b>Granting Unserved Municipalities Broadband Opportunities 2.0 (GUMBO 2.0)</b>	For cost considerations, the proposed rule is anticipated to create optional, minor costs for directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups. This would take the form of broadband service packages offered by private providers to prospective broadband recipients provided the opportunity to subscribe to broadband service. Recent national averages for broadband subscriptions range from \$50 to \$75 per month. The possible economic benefits to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups is substantial, yet indeterminable. Increased broadband access has the potential to transform smaller, rural communities consisting of persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups, through increased economic output, namely in the form of enhanced employment opportunities, higher wages, business development, improved access to healthcare, and educational opportunities.
<b>Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System</b>	<b>Remote Meetings</b>	Electronic meetings could possibly reduce expenses to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups by negating the need for travel to Board meetings.
<b>Office of Financial Institutions</b>	<b>Private Education Lender Registry</b>	Private education lenders will incur an initial fee of \$1,500 to register and an annual renewal fee of \$1,000. If the lender is late to renew, they will also incur a late fee of \$500.
<b>Board of Practical Nurse Examiners</b>	<b>Additional Duties and Powers of the Board</b>	The proposed rule changes benefit graduates of registered nursing programs who desire to become a licensed practical nurse as these individuals would now be able to apply for licensure as a practical nurse. Graduates who become licensed as a practical nurse under these rule changes may experience an increase in income.

Promulgating Agency	Proposed Rule Title	Estimated Costs and/or Economic Benefits to Directly Affected Persons, Small Businesses or Nongovernmental Groups
Board of Practical Nurse Examiners	Licensure	The proposed rule changes benefit graduates of registered nursing programs who desire to become a licensed practical nurse as these individuals would now be able to apply for licensure as a practical nurse. Graduates who become licensed as a practical nurse under these rule changes may experience an increase in income.
Board of Elementary and Secondary Education	Bulletin 741—Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators Financial Literacy	A financially literate citizenry will benefit from an expanded understanding of financial principles and better avoid financial distress due to lack of understanding of the economic impacts of unsound budgeting, debt, and financial planning. Schools that fall under the jurisdiction of LAC 28:LXXIX— <i>Louisiana Handbook for Nonpublic School Administrators</i> may incur additional costs associated with developing or purchasing curricula for the one-unit Financial Literacy course and any resources used in class instruction to the extent they choose to offer Financial Literacy courses to students who pursue a TOPS University Diploma or a career diploma.
Board of Elementary and Secondary Education	Bulletin 746—Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel—Teacher Certification Requirements	Teacher preparation program providers may need to revise some program components to align with the adopted foundational numeracy requirements [CB1].
Board of Elementary and Secondary Education	Bulletin 1573—Complaint Management Procedures—Special Education Complaint Procedures	The proposed rule change will not result in costs and/or economic benefits to directly affected persons, small businesses, or nongovernmental groups.
Department of Environmental Quality	Delisting Exclusion of Solvents/EDC Process Wastewater Effluent and Solvents East Ditch Sediment from Hazardous Waste for the Dow Chemical Company, Plaquemine	Assuming the delisting petition is granted, the Dow Chemical Company will meet the Consent Agreement and Final Order directed by the EPA. This change would produce an economic benefit for the company. The delisting of the Solvents/EDC Process Wastewater Effluent and Solvents/East Ditch sediment will allow the company to manage the effluent/sediment outside of RCRA disposal standards. The company will not have to remove, haul, and transport the effluent/sediment to a hazardous waste disposal facility, potentially reducing the impact of traffic and stress to the roadways.
Department of Environmental Quality	Open Meetings via Electronic Means Policy	The individuals directly affected by this rule would be members of the public with disabilities, their designated caregivers, and/or members of public bodies with disabilities request to attend public meetings via electronic means (i.e. teleconference or videoconference). In such cases, it stands to reason that they would not request to participate in such a manner unless they already have the technological capability to do so, either via telephone or through a free Zoom or Teams videoconference account. Therefore, the proposed rule may result in travel savings to members of the public with disabilities as they can now participate in the meeting virtually.
Department of Revenue	Payment of Sales and Use Taxes by Persons Constructing, Renovating, or Altering Immovable Property	The proposed amendment will affect customers of immovable property contractors who believe sales tax was charged in error and seek a refund. The amendments require those customers to present certain documentation to overcome the presumption that the sales tax was properly charged. To the extent this information is not readily available, these taxpayers will have to obtain this additional documentation from their contractor. However, any cost associated with this requirement is expected to be minimal.
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries	Bear Hunting Areas, Seasons, Rules and Bag Limits	The proposed rule change is expected to benefit hunters by providing sustainable opportunities to harvest black bears. It may offer additional potential income to landowners who receive tags, that may be sold to qualified Louisiana resident hunters who seek to pursue bears and to other landowners who lease lands to bear hunters. The proposed rule change may result in additional expenditures for lottery fees and hunting permits if the Louisiana legislature sets fees for bear hunting permits and establishes a lottery.

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<p align="center"><b>Department of Wildlife and Fisheries</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Charter Boat and Head Boat Saltwater Finfish On-Water Possession Limits</b></p>	<p>The proposed rule change is anticipated to impose no additional financial cost on anglers and charter vessel operators. It may benefit anglers by providing additional angling opportunities and benefit charter boat operators by facilitating additional revenue opportunities by allowing them to appeal to additional customers who would be allowed to keep more fish on multi-day trips under the proposed rule than they can keep under existing regulations.</p>
<p align="center"><b>Department of Wildlife and Fisheries</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Hunting Regulations for the 2024-2026 Seasons</b></p>	<p>The proposed rule change may increase regulatory compliance costs for persons and businesses that collect, raise, or sell reptiles and amphibians.</p> <p>The proposed rule changes prohibiting the commercial harvests of native turtles and the importation and possession of certain nonnative reptiles and amphibians is anticipated to have a negative effect on persons and businesses engaged in these activities. Because there is little information about these activities and their practitioners, the anticipated losses in revenue cannot be assessed with available data.</p> <p>The proposed prohibition on organized events that wantonly or willfully waste native reptiles or amphibians is anticipated to curtail one event in Northeast Louisiana, the Lake Providence Snake Rodeo that is known to engage in such activities.</p>