

March 2025

Economic Impact Statements for Proposed Rules

The corresponding proposed Rule to each of the statements below may be viewed in its entirety in the March 20, 2025 *Louisiana Register*. Each *Louisiana Register* edition is published on the 20th of each month.

Promulgating Agency	Proposed Rule Title	Estimated Costs and/or Economic Benefits to Directly Affected Persons, Small Businesses or Nongovernmental Groups
Department of Agriculture and Forestry (Advisory Commission on Pesticides)	Advisory Commission on Pesticides	The proposed rule changes are estimated to cost affected entities \$50 per applicator. The directly affected entities are businesses that use restricted pesticide applicators. LDAF anticipates approximately 20 applicators per year will be affected.
Department of Agriculture and Forestry (Office of Animal Health and Food Safety)	Voluntary Inspection Services for Slaughter and Processing of Exotic Animals	The service will cost \$40/hour to small businesses that volunteer for the program. There is no requirement that establishments slaughtering or processing these exotic animals participate in the program, and only those establishments that wish to participate would be affected. Currently, there is no other method to legally bring these exotic meat and poultry items to market. The service is designed to open new business opportunities for these establishments.
Department of Agriculture and Forestry (Office of the Commissioner)	Petitions for Declaratory Orders	The proposed rule change is not anticipated to have any effect on persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups, nor will either of these groups incur costs and/or additional documentation as a result of the proposed action.
Department of Agriculture and Forestry (Office of the Commissioner)	Petitions for Adoption, Amendment, or Repeal of Rules; Form and Procedure	The proposed rule change is not anticipated to have any effect on persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups, nor will either of these groups incur costs and/or additional documentation as a result of the proposed action.
Department of Agriculture and Forestry (Office of Management and Finance)	Central Registry	The proposed rule is not anticipated to have any economic impacts on directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups. The proposed rule simply eliminates LDAF's outdated regulatory framework for the central registry function.
Department of Environmental Quality	Aligning UST Regulations with Statute Changes	There are no costs to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups as a result of this proposed rule. Affected persons, small businesses, and non-governmental groups that have an eligible release will be eligible for an additional \$500,000 in clean-up and third-party damage coverage from the Louisiana Motor Fuels Underground Storage Tank Trust Dedicated Fund Account. In addition to the higher amount of coverage, the noncompliance deductible can now be set by the department below the current \$10,000, which could result in additional savings to affected persons, small businesses, and non-governmental groups.
Department of Health (Board of Medical Examiners)	Adjudication; Recusal	The proposed rule is expected to increase the income of the pro tem Director of Investigations who meets the board's criteria for a particular proceeding.
Department of Health (Board of Medical Examiners)	Physicians; Bridge Year Program	The proposed rule creates a bridge year graduate physician program, will have both economic benefits and costs. The program allows bridge year physicians to function as physician extenders, enabling them to receive compensation through Medicaid and other insurance reimbursements. However, board-certified physicians serving as preceptors will experience an increased workload due to the direct supervision requirements, potentially impacting their time and resources.
Department of Health (Board of Medical Examiners)	Physicians; Good Standing Definition	There are no anticipated economic benefits or losses resulting from the proposed rule. The revision serves solely to clarify the definition of "License in Good Standing".

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<p align="center">Department of Health (Board of Medical Examiners)</p>	<p align="center">Physicians; Retired Physician License</p>	<p>The proposed amendments will benefit the public by enabling physicians who might have otherwise fully retired to maintain an active license at a reduced fee. This allows experienced professionals to continue offering voluntary medical services, thereby increasing access to care, particularly in underserved communities. By providing a structured pathway for retired physicians to remain engaged in practice, the amendments help retain valuable medical expertise within the healthcare system.</p>
<p align="center">Department of Health (Board of Medical Examiners)</p>	<p align="center">Rules of Procedure; Complaints and Investigations</p>	<p>There are no anticipated economic benefits or losses resulting from the proposed rule.</p>
<p align="center">Department of Health (Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners)</p>	<p align="center">Certificate of Completion for LPC-S Renewal</p>	<p>There are no anticipated economic benefits or losses resulting from the proposed rule. There will be no monetary cost associated with the required additional bi-annual supervisor orientation.</p>
<p align="center">Department of Health (Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners)</p>	<p align="center">Teaching Continuing Education for LPCs</p>	<p>Applicants for license renewal may benefit from the proposed change, which provides an additional mode for obtaining continuing education. Teaching at the graduate level does not require preapproved coursework, and licensees can earn up to ten hours through this method. The proposed rule changes may result in a minimal decrease in revenue for accredited providers of continuing education coursework or professional associations, as licensees will have an additional option to obtain continuing education hours under the proposed changes.</p>
<p align="center">Department of Health (Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners)</p>	<p align="center">Radiologic Technologists</p>	<p>The current radiologic technology licensing fee is \$100 for a two-year period. Proposed changes to the rule will increase the licensing fee to \$150 for a two-year period. In addition, the proposed changes will establish a Limited X-Ray Machine Operator (LXMO) temporary permit fee of \$50, and a two-year LXMO permit fee of \$150. The proposed rule changes will update administrative fees for certain services or transactions, resulting in a potential cost for licenses and permit holders in line with the board's cost of delivering those services. Currently late fees are determined by the time of the licensure renewal. The proposed late fee will be \$200, no matter when the time of renewal. The administrative fee change reflects the verification fee increasing from \$25 to \$50. The increase in fees is due to an increase in operating expenses of the board and in the future will be used by the board to upgrade its operational infrastructure which will create increased efficiency, greater consistency, and easier access of data to licensees and permit holders.</p>
<p align="center">Department of Public Safety and Corrections (Office of Motor Vehicles)</p>	<p align="center">Driving Schools</p>	<p>To the extent persons, firms, or employees violate current statute, administrative rules, contract terms, or department policy, they may incur fines ranging from \$25 to \$1,000 based on the classification of the offense and whether it is the 1st or 2nd and subsequent violation.</p>
<p align="center">Department of Public Safety and Corrections (Office of Motor Vehicles)</p>	<p align="center">Ignition Interlock Devices</p>	<p>There are no anticipated costs or economic benefits to directly affected person, small businesses, or non-governmental groups.</p>
<p align="center">Department of Revenue (Tax Policy and Planning Division)</p>	<p align="center">Income Tax Withholding Tables</p>	<p>Employers and individual taxpayers will be affected by the proposed action. For employers, LDR does not have the information necessary to determine the additional costs, if any, to comply with this change in withholdings, but these costs are expected to be minimal. The tax burden of individual taxpayers are anticipated to decrease, though the exact impact from Act 11 of 2024 Third Extraordinary Session is subject to the unique circumstances surrounding individual taxpayers' taxable income.</p>
<p align="center">Special School District Board of Directors</p>	<p align="center">Open Meetings Accessibility; ADA</p>	<p>Electronic meetings could potentially reduce expenses to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups by negating the need for travel to a board meeting.</p>

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<p>Department of Treasury (Board of Trustees of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System)</p>	<p>Disability Accommodations for Open Meetings</p>	<p>Electronic meetings could potentially reduce expenses to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups by negating the need for travel to a board meeting.</p>
<p>Department of Treasury (Board of Trustees of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System)</p>	<p>Election of Both Active and Retired Member Trustees</p>	<p>There is no anticipated effect on costs or economic benefits to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups.</p>
<p>Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (Wildlife and Fisheries Commission)</p>	<p>Alligators</p>	<p>The proposed rule change is expected to have positive impacts on individuals and small businesses that participate in the harvesting and processing of alligators. It may also benefit persons who are at risk of negative encounters with alligators to the extent that the proposed lengthening of the alligator trapping season achieves the intended goal of reducing negative human interactions with alligators.</p>
<p>Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (Wildlife and Fisheries Commission)</p>	<p>Bear Hunting Areas, Seasons, Rules, and Bag Limits</p>	<p>The proposed rule changes are expected to benefit hunters by providing sustainable opportunities to harvest black bears in the same area of northeast Louisiana that allowed bear hunting in 2024 and in two additional areas in southern Louisiana. 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.</p>
<p>Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (Wildlife and Fisheries Commission)</p>	<p>Wahoo Harvest Regulations</p>	<p>The proposed rule change is anticipated to have little or no impact on persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups. According to LA Creel data collected by the LDWF, one-half of one percent of the recreational trips with wahoo landings between 2014 and 2024 landed five fish. Some charter boat operations (most of which meet the qualifications of small businesses) may experience a small decrease in landings among their customers. In consideration of the low frequency of encounters with wahoos in Louisiana, the proposed bag and possession limits are unlikely to have a quantifiable negative effect on charter operations' earnings.</p>