

**July 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 July 20, 2025 *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>Department of Agriculture and Forestry</b>	<b>Seeds</b>	<p>The non-governmental groups that could be affected by the proposed action are persons who apply and produce certified bahiagrass seed, sugarcane seed, and sweet potato seed. However, the proposed rule changes are not anticipated to materially impact the costs of these non-governmental groups.</p> <p>The proposed rule changes implement certification standards for hemp seeds. Businesses that will require their seeds to be certified will need to submit additional tests, obtain a license, and meet the required standards outlined in the proposed rule. LDAF is unable to quantify to what extent these new requirements will impact these entities.</p> <p>The proposed rule changes are anticipated to have a material positive effect on the revenues of producers of certified bahiagrass, sweet potatoes, and sugarcane. These entities are anticipated to benefit as inspections on the bahiagrass, sweet potatoes, and sugarcane seeds will prevent diseases and potentially increase production. LDAF is unable to determine the number of entities that will benefit from the new standards, and therefore, the anticipated positive effect cannot be determined at this time.</p>
<b>Department of Agriculture and Forestry</b>	<b>Forest Landowner Assistance</b>	<p>The proposed rule change will require landowners participating in the program to pay higher fees to use equipment to conduct prescribed burns. Some of the landowners conducting these burns may be considered small businesses.</p>
<b>Board of Elementary and Secondary Education</b>	<b>Bulletin 741—Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators—Remote School Registration for Military Families</b>	<p>There are no anticipated costs or benefits to directly affected persons, small businesses, or nongovernmental groups as a result of the proposed rule change.</p>
<b>Board of Elementary and Secondary Education</b>	<b>Civics Assessment</b>	<p>There are no anticipated costs or benefits to directly affected persons, small businesses, or nongovernmental groups as a result of the proposed rule change.</p>
<b>Tuition Trust Authority</b>	<b>START Saving Program</b>	<p>There are no anticipated costs or economic benefits to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups. The proposed rule change allows staff to facilitate an account transfer when a court of competent jurisdiction requires it. Additionally, the proposed change adopts actual interest rates for deposits and earnings enhancements for the year ending December 31, 2024. As determined by the State Treasurer, the interest rate earned for the 2024 calendar year by the Louisiana Education Tuition and Savings Fund was 2.0%, and by the Savings Enhancements Fund was 3.0%. These interest earnings are the property of the account owners.</p>
<b>Board of Examiners of Interior Designers</b>	<b>Officer Duties, Reinstatement, Continuing Education, and Inactive Status</b>	<p>The proposed rule change is not anticipated to have an impact on the estimated costs and/or economic benefits to persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups that may be affected by the enforcement of the regulations.</p>
<b>Department of Veterans Affairs</b>	<b>Cemeteries</b>	<p>There are no anticipated costs or economic benefits to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups.</p>
<b>Office of the Governor</b>	<b>License by Endorsement</b>	<p>The proposed rule change codifies an alternative path to licensure for certain individuals as authorized in La. R.S. 37:51 et seq (The Welcome Home Act), which may result in an economic benefit for those applicants.</p>

Promulgating Agency	Proposed Rule Title	Estimated Costs and/or Economic Benefits to Directly Affected Persons, Small Businesses or Nongovernmental Groups
Board of Medical Examiners	Fully-Trained Foreign Physicians	The proposed rule may result in minimal costs to individuals applying for licensure as Fully Trained Foreign Physicians. However, the rule is expected to create economic benefits by expanding employment opportunities for qualified foreign-trained physicians and increasing access to medical care in underserved areas. No impact is anticipated for small businesses or non-governmental groups.
Department of Health	Hospital Services Coverage of Gene Therapies for Sickle Cell Disease	This proposed rule continues the provisions of the July 1, 2025 Emergency Rule which amended the provisions governing inpatient hospital services to allow reimbursement for gene therapies for sickle cell disease to be paid outside the per diem rate and paid in actual acquisition cost. Changing the reimbursement method allows the department to leverage value-based rebates, which provide an incentive for drug manufacturers to produce effective medications. It is estimated that this proposed rule will not affect providers or small businesses in FY 25-26, FY 26-27, or FY 27-28, since the rebates will not impact how much is paid for these existing services.
Department of Health	Nursing Facilities Reimbursement Methodology	This proposed rule continues the Emergency Rule for June 30, 2025, which amended reimbursement for Nursing Facilities to revise the language and to replace resource utilization group resident classification system with the patient driven payment model. This proposed Rule is expected to have no impact on beneficiaries or small businesses. The change in methodology will impact payments to providers. It is anticipated that the cost as a result of this proposed rule will be approximately \$4,335,021 for FY 25-26, \$4,335,021 for FY 26-27, and \$4,335,021 for FY 27-28.
Department of Health	Appraisal	The proposed rule change is not anticipated to impact small businesses or non-governmental groups. There are no expected economic losses. The rule does not change how billing is handled by providers, which typically include mental health clinics, group practices, behavioral health centers, schools, hospitals, and private counseling agencies. This rule simply removes language to not create confusion. It does not create any new financial or administrative requirements.
Department of Public Safety and Corrections Corrections Services	Disciplinary Rules and Procedures for Adult Inmates	There are no estimated costs and/or economic benefits to small businesses or non-governmental groups.
Department of Public Safety and Corrections Corrections Services	Searches of Visitors	There are no estimated costs and/or economic benefits to small business or non-governmental groups.
Department of Public Safety and Corrections	Reciprocity Agreements with Foreign Countries	Foreign individuals and organizations who employ drivers from foreign countries benefit economically from streamlining the licensure process by reducing delays, minimizing administrative burdens, and enabling faster onboarding.
Department of Public Safety and Corrections	Seizure Disorder Designation	There are no anticipated costs or economic benefits to directly affected person, small businesses, or non-governmental groups.
Department of Revenue	Electronic Filing and Payment Requirement for Dealers Providing Telecommunications, Cable Television, Direct-to-Home Satellite, Video Programming and Satellite Digital Audio Radio Services	The proposed rules require dealers providing telecommunication services, cable television services, direct-to-home satellite services, video programming services, and satellite digital audio radio services to file their returns and reports electronically on Form R-1029E, Electronic Sales Tax Return, and remit the tax and payment by electronic funds transfer for reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2025. Electronic filing of the sales tax returns will be available directly through LDR's LaTAP portal that will allow taxpayers to file for free. LDR does not have the information necessary to determine the additional costs to comply with the proposed rules, but these costs are expected to be minimal as online access and activity has largely become a business standard. To the extent non-compliance penalties are collected, affected taxpayers will incur penalty costs. LDR cannot estimate the additional penalty amount as it is dependent upon taxpayer violations and liabilities.

Promulgating Agency	Proposed Rule Title	Estimated Costs and/or Economic Benefits to Directly Affected Persons, Small Businesses or Nongovernmental Groups
Department of State	Records Management Policies and Practices	The proposed rule changes are not anticipated to result in any costs or economic benefits to directly affected persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups.
Department of Transportation and Development	Bylaws	The proposed rule change has no anticipated costs and/or economic benefits to directly affected persons, small businesses or non-governmental groups.
Department of Treasury	Deferred Compensation Plan	Affected individuals may economically benefit from the additional exemptions from early withdrawal penalties pertaining to personal emergency expenses, distributions taken by victims of domestic abuse, and qualified disaster recovery distribution. Affected individuals may also economically benefit from the higher catch up limit for Individuals aged 60 to 63 years old.
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries	Resident Quadrupeds and Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator Program	The proposed rule changes may reduce regulatory compliance costs incurred by NWCO and wildlife rehabilitators. The LDWF issued an average of 147 nuisance wildlife control operator licenses between License Year 2022 and License Year 2024. Most of the game breeder operations in Louisiana meet the characteristics of small businesses. Adding raccoons to the list of wild nuisance quadrupeds will allow private landowners the ability to control the species without hiring a NWCO. Allowing NWCO to euthanize Muscovy ducks, a non-native species, will benefit landowners and pond managers where the ducks congregate.
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries	Special Bait Dealer’s Permit	The proposed rule change would benefit permitted commercial fishers possessing special bait dealers' permits who harvested bait shrimp and croaker by allowing them to sell bait while on the water. The LDWF issued an average of 58 resident special bait permits and 10.3 non-resident special bait dealer permits between License Year 2022 and License Year 2024. The LDWF maintains a list of 59 unique businesses that held 58 special bait dealer permits in June 2025. Many of the entities that hold a special bait dealer's permit meet the qualifications of small businesses.
Workforce Commission	Hearing Rules	The proposed rule change is not anticipated to result in any costs or economic benefits to persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups.
Workforce Commission	Hearing Rules—Authority	The proposed rule change is not anticipated to result in any costs or economic benefits to persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups.