



FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 297

Committee: Ways and Means Education

Sponsor: Representative Jennifer Fidler

Analyst: Jennifer Farish

Date: 03/04/2025

House Bill 297 as introduced would, beginning July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029, levy a fee a 4% fee on each outgoing international wire transfer sent through a money transmission business, which would increase receipts to the following funds, created by this bill in the State Treasury, by an undetermined amount as follows:

(1) 38% to the Sheriffs' Immigration Enforcement and Detainer Fund to be allocated per capita to county sheriffs and used to offset expenses relating to enforcing federal and state immigration laws and the care and housing of individuals who violate immigration laws;

(2) 62% to the Immigration Assimilation Resources Fund to be allocated pro rata to each county where the fees were collected and to be distributed as follows, except for an administrative fee of up to 0.5% which may be retained by the county:

a. 75% to city and public K-12 schools in the county in proportion to the number of students classified as English language learners (ELL) to be used for ELL instruction; or for adult ELL instruction or support of programs impacted by immigration, under certain conditions; and

b. 25% to regional hospitals for reimbursement of uncompensated care expenses, or to county health departments, under certain conditions.

Additionally, for tax years 2026 through 2029, this bill would provide for a nonrefundable income tax credit equal to the lesser of \$5,000, or the total amount of all outgoing international electronic wire transfer fees paid by the taxpayer, which would reduce income tax receipts to the Education Trust Fund for fiscal years 2027 to 2030 by an undetermined amount dependent on the amount of wire fees for which tax credits are claimed pursuant to the provisions of this bill.

This bill could also increase the obligations of the Legislature by an estimated \$2,000 per



meeting of the 8-member legislative review committee established by this bill to review the expenditures of wire transfer fee proceeds by counties.

Finally, this bill would increase the administrative obligations of the Alabama Securities Commission and the Department of Revenue to administer the provisions of this bill.