



## FISCAL NOTE

### Senate Bill 273

Committee: Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Development Sponsor: Senator April Weaver

Analyst: Tiffany Weaver

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**Senate Bill 273** This bill would increase the obligations of the Alabama State Board of Pharmacy to: (1) issue annual certificates to certain pharmacies to sell consumable hemp products, beginning January 1, 2026; (2) inspect certified pharmacies annually; and (3) adopt rules to implement the provisions of this bill. However, the increased obligations would be offset, in whole or in part by annual filing fees, established by board rule, for the annual certificate for pharmacies to sell consumable hemp products.

In addition, this bill would increase the obligations of the Department of Agriculture and Industries, beginning January 1, 2026, to: (1) establish a seed-to-sale hemp tracking system that would cost a department-estimated initial cost of \$100,000 and a minimum of \$25,000 annually to maintain; (2) establish testing and labeling requirements for the sale of consumable hemp products; (3) issue certificates of analysis to pharmacies for these products prior to being sold which would cost a department-estimated \$275,000 annually in salaries and benefits; (4) establish standards and guidelines for testing by independent, 3rd party laboratories; and (5) adopt rules and implement the provisions of this bill. Any increased obligations would be offset, in part, by requiring hemp cultivators to bear the costs associated with the testing of hemp, and hemp processors to bear the costs associated with the testing of consumable hemp products.

This bill could also decrease receipts to the State General Fund and municipal general funds from the repealing of fines imposed on individuals under 21 years of age, ranging between \$50 to \$400 per violation; decrease receipts to the State General Fund, county general funds, municipal general funds and other funds to which court costs are deposited; and could decrease the obligations of the State General Fund, district attorneys, and local jails by an undetermined amount dependent upon the number of individuals who would have been charged and convicted



of the offenses provided that are now repealed by this bill and the penalties that have been removed.