

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **SB 35** SLS 26RS 227

Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 12, 2026 1:37 PM	Author: WHEAT
Dept./Agy.: Corrections and Sheriffs	Analyst: Daniel Druilhet
Subject: Disturbing the Peace	

CRIME/PUNISHMENT

EG SEE FISC NOTE LF EX

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Creates the crime of disturbing the peace at a place of religious worship. (8/1/26)

Proposed law creates the crime of disturbing the peace in or near a place of religious worship; provides that no person can petition, picket, demonstrate, protest, or assemble with other persons in, or within 50 feet of, a place of worship in a manner which intentionally and willfully disrupts, threatens to disrupt, intimidates, harasses, or interferes with any person lawfully exercising or seeking to exercise his right of religious freedom guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution or the Louisiana Constitution Article I, Section 8; assesses a fine of \$500 or a sentence of 15 days in jail, without the benefit of probation or suspension of sentence, for those in violation of the proposed law; provides that each day on which a violation occurs shall constitute a separate offense.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	SEE BELOW					
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	SEE BELOW					
Annual Total						

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in Local Funds expenditures for local governing authorities if a person is convicted of disturbing the peace by interrupting any worship service or religious ceremony at a church or other place of worship. Proposed law has the effect of adding circumstances under which an offender can be convicted of disturbing the peace and is a misdemeanor. The exact fiscal impact of this legislation to local governing authorities is indeterminable, since it is not known how many people will be convicted and incarcerated in local facilities, nor the length of the sentences assessed with those convictions as a result of its potential enactment. The maximum imprisonment term at the local level is 15 days, without the benefit of probation or suspension of sentence.

There is no anticipated direct material effect on state governmental expenditures as a result of this measure because this legislation creates a misdemeanor offense; therefore, these offenders will not be sentenced to the Department of Public Safety & Corrections - Corrections Services (DPS&C-CS).

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in local revenues as a result of convictions of disturbing the peace by interrupting any worship service or religious ceremony at a church or other place of worship. While the fine imposed for violation of the proposed law is mandatory, the exact fiscal impact of the passage of this legislation on local revenue is indeterminable because it is unknown the number of instances in which offenders will be convicted of the proposed law. The potential revenue will accrue to the local governing authority.

Senate

Dual Referral Rules

House

13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}

6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}

13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer