

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 255** HLS 26RS 162
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 12, 2026 1:44 PM	Author: BAYHAM
Dept./Agy.: Corrections and Sheriffs	
Subject: Wearing Masks in Public	Analyst: Daniel Druilhet

CRIMINAL/PENALTIES OR SEE FISC NOTE GF EX Page 1 of 1
 Provides relative to wearing masks in public

Current law prohibits the use or wear in any public place of any character whatsoever, or in any open place in view thereof, a hood or mask, or anything in the nature of either, or any facial disguise of any kind or description, calculated to conceal or hid the identity of the person or to prevent his readily being recognized and provides punitive measures for its violation. Proposed law provides that the court may, in addition to any other penalty provided by law, sentence any person who is convicted of an enumerated list of 40 crimes to an additional two years of imprisonment, with or without hard labor, when, at the time of the commission of the crime, the offender was wearing a mask, hood, or other facial disguise with the intent to conceal or hide his identity.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in SGF expenditures in the Department of Public Safety & Corrections-Corrections Services (DPS&C-CS), to the extent that a person is convicted of an enumerated list of 40 crimes when, at the time of the commission of the crime, he was wearing a mask, hood, or other facial disguise with the intent to conceal or hide his identity. Proposed law has the effect of adding two years of imprisonment to any other sentence imposed on an offender convicted of a list of 40 enumerated crimes, and is a relative felony. Any impact on either state or local expenditures is contingent on whether offenders sustain either a misdemeanor or felony-grade convictions for their violation. The exact fiscal impact to DPS&C-CS is indeterminable, as it is unknown how many people will be convicted or the length of the sentences assessed with those convictions as a result of its potential enactment. The maximum imprisonment term is an additional two years.

To the extent that offenders sustain a felony-grade conviction for violation of the proposed law, DPS&C-CS will sustain an indeterminable increase in expenditures. For those convicted, sentenced, and then subsequently housed in a state facility, DPS&C-CS will sustain expenditures of \$107.60 per offender per day. For those housed in local facilities, DPS&C-CS will sustain expenditures of \$29.39 per offender per day. DPS&C-CS advises that impacts on offender populations are anticipated to impact the number of offenders held in local facilities, and that in managing its offender population, it seeks to fill all beds in state facilities first, then assigns overflow offenders to local facilities.

To the extent that offenders sustain a misdemeanor conviction for violation of the proposed law, local governing authorities will sustain Local Funds expenditures. The exact fiscal impact of the passage 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.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

Senate Dual Referral Rules
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer