



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 68** HLS 26RS 565
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action: **W/ SEN FLOOR AMD**
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 6, 2026	1:40 PM	Author: SCHLEGEL
Dept./Agy.: Corrections and Sheriffs		
Subject: Conduct which Constitutes Disturbing the Peace		Analyst: Daniel Druilhet

CRIME EGF SEE FISC NOTE GF EX Page 1 of 2
 Provides relative to conduct that constitutes disturbing the peace

Current law provides for the crime of disturbing the peace and provides for its legal definition. Proposed law adds to circumstances under which an offender can be charged for disturbing the peace as interrupting any worship service or religious ceremony at a church or other place of worship by (1) violent, tumultuous, or threatening behavior directed at any person lawfully attending, leading, or participating in the service, (2) unreasonably loud or abusive language or noise such that the service is materially disrupted, or (3) interference with the conduct of the service by physical obstruction, intimidation, or threat of force toward clergy, worship leaders, or attendees; provides that, subject to exceptions, whoever commits the crime of disturbing the peace shall be fined not more than \$500 or imprisoned for not more than 6 months, or both, and that 30 days of the sentence imposed shall be served without benefit of probation or suspension of sentence; provides that whoever commits the crimes of simple battery or simple criminal damage to property while disturbing the peace under proposed law shall be imprisoned for no more than two years, with or without hard labor; provides that whoever is convicted of the proposed law while armed with a dangerous weapon shall be imprisoned for no more than 5 years, with or without hard labor.

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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	

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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	

Annual Total

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) and an indeterminable increase in Local Funds expenditures to local governing authorities to the extent that a person is convicted of disturbing the peace. Proposed law adds circumstances under which offenders can be convicted of disturbing the peace (both misdemeanor and felony-level offenses) and assesses penalties for its violation contingent upon the behavior in which the offender engages. The exact fiscal impact 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.

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in SGF expenditures in the Department of Public Safety & Corrections-Corrections Services, to the extent that a person is convicted of disturbing the peace while committing the crimes of simple battery or simple criminal damage to property, or while armed with a dangerous weapon. Proposed law is a relative felony, and any impact on either state or local expenditures is contingent on whether offenders sustain either misdemeanor or felony-grade convictions for their violation. The exact fiscal impact 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 for disturbing the peace while committing the crimes of simple battery or simple criminal damage to property is no more than two years, while the maximum imprisonment term for disturbing the peace while armed with a dangerous weapon is no more than five 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.


[CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO]

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 similar place of worship. The exact fiscal impact of the passage of this legislation on local revenue is indeterminable because the fines that would be imposed on those convicted (not more than \$500) are optional, and the amount of the fines, if imposed, may vary. The potential revenue will accrue to the local governing authority.

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



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CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE]

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 similar 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. Though proposed law mandates that 30 days of each sentence imposed be served without the benefit of probation or suspension of sentence, Local expenditures incurred by parish jails are variable in nature. The maximum imprisonment term at the local level is no more than six months.

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).

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