

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE**  
**Fiscal Note**



Fiscal Note On: **SB 22** SLS 25RS 233  
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> April 6, 2025	5:40 PM	<b>Author:</b> HODGES
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Corrections and Sheriffs		<b>Analyst:</b> Daniel Druilhet
<b>Subject:</b> Theft of Utility Property		

THEFT OR SEE FISC NOTE GF EX Page 1 of 1  
 Creates the crime of theft of utility property. (8/1/25)

Proposed law creates the crime of theft of utility property; assesses a sentence of imprisonment of no less than two years nor more than five years, with or without hard labor, or a fine of no less than \$2,000 nor more than \$5,000, or both, for those convicted of theft of utility property; assesses a sentence of imprisonment for no less than five years nor more than 10 years, with or without hard labor, or a fine of no less than \$5,000 nor more than \$10,000, or both, for those convicted of theft of utility property that necessitates interruption of utility service to the public in order to make repairs or otherwise replace the stolen utility property; provides applicable definitions.

EXPENDITURES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	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					
<b>Annual Total</b>						
REVENUES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	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					
<b>Annual Total</b>						

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in SGF expenditures in the Department of Public Safety and Corrections – Corrections Services (DPS&C – CS) if a person is convicted of theft of utility property or theft of utility property that necessitates interruption of utility service to the public in order to make repairs or otherwise replace the stolen utility property. Proposed law is a relative felony, and any impact on either state or local expenditures is contingent on whether persons sustain either misdemeanor or felony-grade convictions for its violation. The exact fiscal impact of this legislation to state and local governing authorities is indeterminable, since it creates a crime, and it is not known how many people will be convicted, nor the length of the sentences assessed as a result of its potential enactment.

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 \$26.39 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**

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in local revenues as a result of convictions of theft of utility property or theft of utility property that necessitates interruption of utility service to the public in order to make repairs or otherwise replace the stolen utility property. 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 are optional, and the amount of the fines, if imposed, may vary. The potential revenue will accrue to the local governing authority.

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|---|--|--------------|
| <u>Senate</u>   | <u>Dual Referral Rules</u>   | <u>House</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}       | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}                    |              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H} | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S} |              |

  
**Patrice Thomas**  
**Deputy Fiscal Officer**