LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE Louisiana egislative 🛉 **Fiscal Note** Fiscal Fiscal Note On: SB Office **15** SLS 25RS 129 Fiscal Bill Text Version: REENGROSSED Notes Opp. Chamb. Action: w/ HSE COMM AMD Proposed Amd.: Sub. Bill For.: 5:38 PM Date: May 28, 2025 Author: MORRIS, JAY **Dept./Agy.:** Corrections and Sheriffs Analyst: Daniel Druilhet Subject: Obstruction of Justice and Malfeasance in Office

CRIME/PUNISHMENT

RE1 SEE FISC NOTE GF EX

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Prohibits any act intended to hinder, delay, prevent, or otherwise interfere with or thwart federal immigration enforcement efforts. (8/1/25)

<u>Current law</u> provides for definitions relative to the crimes of obstruction of justice and malfeasance in office. <u>Proposed law</u> adds knowingly committing any act intended to hinder, delay, prevent, or otherwise interfere with or thwart federal immigration enforcement efforts to circumstances under which a person can be prosecuted for obstruction of justice; adds interference with civil immigration proceedings or official acts of an agent or employee of a government entity to circumstances under which a person can be prosecuted for obstruction of justice; assesses a fine of no more than \$5,000, or imprisonment for no more than one year, with or without hard labor, or both, for those convicted of obstruction of justice involving a civil immigration proceeding; assesses a fine of no more than \$1,000, imprisonment for no more than six months, or both, for those convicted of obstruction of justice involving an official duty, or refusing a lawful request for cooperation submitted by either United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, United States Customs and Border Protection, or United States Citizenship and Immigration Services with the intent to hinder, delay, prevent, or otherwise interfere, ignore, or thwart federal immigration efforts to circumstances under which a person can be prosecuted for malfeasance in office; adds circumstances for prosecution for malfeasance.

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					
Annual Total						
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					
Annual Total						

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

<u>Proposed law</u> 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 an offender sustains a conviction for obstruction of justice or malfeasance in office. While the <u>proposed law</u> does not enhance penalties for potential offenders, it adds specific circumstances under which persons can be prosecuted under <u>current law</u>. <u>Proposed law</u> (malfeasance in office and obstruction of justice involving a civil immigration proceeding) 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.

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 at the local level. 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 <u>proposed law</u>, 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. The maximum imprisonment term is no more than 10 years.

To the extent that offenders sustain a conviction for obstruction of justice involving an official act of an agent or employee of an official government entity (misdemeanor), the exact fiscal impact of the passage of this legislation is indeterminable. The proposed law adds specific circumstances under which persons can be prosecuted under current law, but it assesses penalties for convictions related to those circumstances which differs from current law. The maximum imprisonment term is no more than one year.

For informational purposes, DPS&C-CS reports that for the last five years, those convicted of obstruction of justice have served an average of 1.78 years of imprisonment, while those convicted of malfeasance in office have served 3.64 years of imprisonment.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

<u>Proposed law</u> may result in an indeterminable increase in local revenues as a result of convictions of obstruction of justice involving a civil immigration proceeding, obstruction of justice involving an official act of an agent or employee of an official government entity, and malfeasance in office. The exact fiscal impact of the passage of this legislation on local revenue is indeterminable, as the fines that would be imposed on those convicted are optional, and the amount of fines, if imposed, may vary. The potential revenue will accrue to the local governing authority.

<u>Senate</u> 13.5.1 >=	Dual Referral Rules \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}	House 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}	Cature Thomas
	\$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee	6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase	Patrice Thomas
	Change {S & H}	or a Net Fee Decrease {S}	Deputy Fiscal Officer