



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: HB0569.01: Revise laws related to perjury and false swearing

Primary Sponsor: Shane Klakken Status: As Introduced

☐ Included in the Executive Budget ☐ Needs to be included in HB 2 ☐ Significant Local Gov Impact
☐ Significant Long-Term Impacts ☐ Technical Concerns ☐ Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2026 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2028 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2029 Difference</u>
Expenditures				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenues				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Impact	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
General Fund Balance	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Description of fiscal impact

HB 569 revises penalties for perjury and false statements. There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions

Judiciary

1. HB 569 amends 45-7-201, MCA, to change the punishment for a person convicted of perjury from imprisonment in the state prison not to exceed 10 years or a fine of not more than \$50,000 or both to imprisonment in the county jail a term of not less than 6 months or more than 1 year.
2. HB 569 amends 45-7-202, MCA, to change the punishment of a person convicted of false swearing from an imprisonment in the county jail for a term not to exceed 6 months and/or a fine not to exceed \$500 to a term of not less than 30 days or more than 90 days and may be additionally punished by a fine of not less than \$500 or more than \$1,500.
3. HB 569 also adds that credible allegations of perjury or false swearing by any person must be investigated by an agency other than the Judiciary or an officer of the court.
4. Revising the penalty for perjury and false swearing does not have a fiscal impact on the Judicial Branch.

Department of Corrections (DoC)

1. Perjury currently carries a \$50,000 maximum fine and up to 10 years in prison. HB 569 proposes to change that to 6-12 months in prison and a potential fine of up to \$50,000.
2. Since 2021, there have been two offenders committed to DoC under 45-7-201, MCA, Perjury, and both had deferred sentences. The proposed changes would reduce the number of DoC-involved offenders to zero.
3. The proposed changes in HB 569 related to false swearing will not impact DoC, as that offense was already a misdemeanor and will remain a misdemeanor.

Mehil Shah Blakely
Sponsor's Initials

27 Feb 25
Date

RD
Budget Director's Initials

2/26/2025
Date