



Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: **SB0101.02 (001): Revise laws related to squatting**

Primary Sponsor: **Becky Beard**

Status: **As Amended in House Committee**

☐ 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

SB 101 would create the offense of unlawful squatting. No increased fiscal impact is anticipated for the state.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions

Department of Justice

1. No fiscal impact is expected for the Department of Justice as an increase in caseload is not expected within the Appellate Services Bureau, Civil Services Bureau or the Prosecution Services Bureau.

Judiciary

2. SB 101 would create the offense of unlawful squatting when the person knowingly, without the consent of the owner, rightful occupant or an authorized representative of the owner(a) enters the premises of another and (b) resides on the premises for any period of time.
3. Under SB 101, a person who knowingly presents a false document purporting to convey authorization to enter and remain on the premises commits forgery.
4. Under SB 101, a person who commits unlawful squatting and intentionally damages the property, commits the offense of criminal mischief.
5. SB 101 provides that if the offenses cause a loss in excess of \$1,500, the offender may be imprisoned in the state prison.
6. This section of this legislation may increase District Court workload, but the Judicial Branch is unable to estimate the impact on judicial workload or the fiscal impact. The cumulative impact of any legislation creating new offenses may over time require additional judicial resources because court dockets are generally full throughout the state.

Department of Corrections

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(continued)

7. SB 101 creates a new criminal offense of unlawful squatting. It does state that individuals who intentionally damage property while unlawfully squatting would be guilty of criminal mischief. The dollar amount of the damaged property would determine whether that offense is a misdemeanor or felony.
8. SB 101 is unlikely to add additionally burden on the department, as property damaged while squatting was likely already being charged before this bill was introduced.

BB

Sponsor's Initials

4-1-25

Date

RD

Budget Director's Initials

3/31/2025

Date