



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

## Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: HB0302: Revising punitive damages laws and procedures

Primary Sponsor: Anthony Nicastro 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>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Revenues</b>				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Net Impact</b>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>General Fund Balance</b>	<u><u>\$0</u></u>	<u><u>\$0</u></u>	<u><u>\$0</u></u>	<u><u>\$0</u></u>

#### Description of fiscal impact

HB 302 requires an evidentiary hearing, if requested, when a motion to amend an initial pleading is made to include punitive damages.

### FISCAL ANALYSIS

#### Assumptions

##### Judicial Branch

1. Section 1 (5) (c) (i) establishes a new hearing related to a motion to amend a civil pleading to assert a claim for punitive damages. A party may request an evidentiary hearing where evidence is presented by live testimony and subject to cross examination.
2. The Judicial Branch is unable to determine the fiscal impact of this legislation on judicial workload but anticipates the number of requested hearings to be minimal. The cumulative impact of this legislation may over time require additional judicial resources because generally court dockets are full throughout the state.

##### Department of Administration (DOA)

3. Tort claims brought against the state are immune from punitive damages. The bill has no fiscal impact to the DOA - Risk Management and Tort Defense.

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Sponsor's Initials

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

2/3/25



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Budget Director's Initials

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1/29/2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**NOT SIGNED BY SPONSOR**