



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

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Revising the penalty for perjury and false swearing does not have a fiscal impact on the Judicial Branch.

Department of Corrections (DoC)

- 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.
- 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.
- 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