

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 1797S.01I  
Bill No.: SB 538  
Subject: Crimes and Punishment; Firearms; Property, Real and Personal; Weapons  
Type: Original  
Date: March 11, 2025

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Bill Summary: This proposal modifies the offense of stealing.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>				
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>	<b>Fully Implemented (FY 2030)</b>
General Revenue	(\$8,737)	(\$21,389)	(\$32,726)	(\$56,746)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>(\$8,737)</b>	<b>(\$21,389)</b>	<b>(\$32,726)</b>	<b>(\$56,746)</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>				
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>	<b>Fully Implemented (FY 2030)</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	Fully Implemented (FY 2030)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	Fully Implemented (FY 2030)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

- ☐ Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.
- ☐ Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	Fully Implemented (FY 2030)
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

#### §570.030 – Stealing

Officials from the **Department of Corrections (DOC)** state this proposal modifies the offense of stealing. Section 570.030 is expanded to include property appropriated or attempted to be appropriated with the possession of a dangerous instrument or deadly weapon, a class B felony.

As these are new crimes, there is little direct data on which to base an estimate, and as such, the department estimates an impact comparable to the creation of a new class B felony.

Given the seriousness of class B felony offenses and that the introduction of a completely new class B felony offense is a rare event, the department assumes the admission of one person per year to prison following the passage of the legislative proposal.

Offenders committed to prison with a class B felony as their most serious sentence, have an average sentence length of 9.0 years and serve, on average, 3.4 years in prison prior to first release. The department assumes one third of the remaining sentence length will be served in prison as a parole return, and the rest of the sentence will be served on supervision in the community.

The cumulative impact on the department is estimated to be 5 additional offenders in prison and 0 additional offenders on field supervision by FY 2030.

#### Change in prison admissions and probation openings with legislation-Class B Felony

	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	FY2032	FY2033	FY2034	FY2035
<b>New Admissions</b>										
Current Law	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
After Legislation	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Probation</b>										
Current Law	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
After Legislation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Change (After Legislation - Current Law)</b>										
Admissions	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Probations										
<b>Cumulative Populations</b>										
Prison	1	2	3	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
Parole						1	2	3	4	4
Probation										
<b>Impact</b>										
Prison Population	1	2	3	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
Field Population						1	2	3	4	4
<b>Population Change</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>

	# to prison	Cost per year	Total Costs for <b>prison</b>	Change in probation & parole officers	Total cost for <b>probation and parole</b>	# to probation & parole	Grand Total - Prison and Probation (includes 2% inflation)
Year 1	1	(\$10,485)	(\$8,737)	0	\$0	0	(\$8,737)
Year 2	2	(\$10,485)	(\$21,389)	0	\$0	0	(\$21,389)
Year 3	3	(\$10,485)	(\$32,726)	0	\$0	0	(\$32,726)
Year 4	4	(\$10,485)	(\$44,507)	0	\$0	0	(\$44,507)
Year 5	5	(\$10,485)	(\$56,746)	0	\$0	0	(\$56,746)
Year 6	5	(\$10,485)	(\$57,881)	0	\$0	1	(\$57,881)
Year 7	5	(\$10,485)	(\$59,039)	0	\$0	2	(\$59,039)
Year 8	5	(\$10,485)	(\$60,220)	0	\$0	3	(\$60,220)
Year 9	5	(\$10,485)	(\$61,424)	0	\$0	4	(\$61,424)
Year 10	5	(\$10,485)	(\$62,653)	0	\$0	4	(\$62,653)

If this impact statement has changed from statements submitted in previous years, it could be due to an increase/decrease in the number of offenders, a change in the cost per day for institutional offenders, and/or an increase in staff salaries.

If the projected impact of legislation is less than 1,500 offenders added to or subtracted from the department's institutional caseload, the marginal cost of incarceration will be utilized. This cost of incarceration is \$28.73 per day or an annual cost of \$10,485 per offender and includes such costs as medical, food, and operational E&E. However, if the projected impact of legislation is 1,500 or more offenders added or removed to the department's institutional caseload, the full cost of incarceration will be used, which includes fixed costs. This cost is \$100.25 per day or an annual cost of \$36,591 per offender and includes personal services, all institutional E&E, medical and mental health, fringe, and miscellaneous expenses. None of these costs include construction to increase institutional capacity.

DOC's cost of probation or parole is determined by the number of P&P Officer II positions that are needed to cover its caseload. The DOC average district caseload across the state is 51 offender cases per officer. An increase/decrease of 51 cases would result in a cost/cost avoidance equal to the salary, fringe, and equipment and expenses of one P&P Officer II.

Increases/decreases smaller than 51 offender cases are assumed to be absorbable.

In instances where the proposed legislation would only affect a specific caseload, such as sex offenders, the DOC will use the average caseload figure for that specific type of offender to calculate cost increases/decreases.

**Oversight** does not have any information contrary to that provided by DOC. Therefore, Oversight will reflect DOC's impact for fiscal note purposes.

Officials from the **Office of the State Public Defender (SPD)** state per the National Public Defense Workload Study, the new charge contemplated by this change to Section 570.030 would take approximately fifty-seven hours of SPD work for reasonably effective representation. If one hundred cases were filed under this section in a fiscal year, representation would result in a need for an additional three attorneys. Because the number of cases that will be filed under this statute is unknown, the exact additional number of attorneys necessary is unknown. Each case would also result in unknown increased costs in the need for core staff, travel, and litigation expenses.

**Oversight** assumes this proposal will not create the number of new cases required to request additional FTE for the SPD and that the SPD can absorb the additional caseload required by this proposal with current staff and resources. Therefore, Oversight will reflect no fiscal impact to the SPD for fiscal note purposes. However, if multiple bills pass which require additional staffing and duties, the SPD may request funding through the appropriation process.

Officials from the **Office of Attorney General (AGO)** assume any potential litigation costs arising from this proposal can be absorbed with existing resources. The AGO may seek additional appropriations if the proposal results in a significant increase in litigation or investigation costs.

**Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight assumes the AGO will be able to perform any additional duties required by this proposal with current staff and resources and will reflect no fiscal impact to the AGO for fiscal note purposes.

Officials from the **Department of Public Safety - Missouri Highway Patrol**, the **Missouri Office of Prosecution Services**, and the **Office of the State Courts Administrator** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT</u> <u>– State</u> <u>Government</u>	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028	Fully Implemented (FY 2030)
<b>GENERAL REVENUE</b>				
<u>Cost – DOC</u> (§570.030) Increased incarceration costs	(\$8,737)	(\$21,389)	(\$32,726)	(\$56,746)
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE</b>	<b>(\$8,737)</b>	<b>(\$21,389)</b>	<b>(\$32,726)</b>	<b>(\$56,746)</b>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT</u> <u>– Local</u> <u>Government</u>	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028	Fully Implemented (FY 2030)
	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTIONSTEALING (Section 570.030)

This act provides that a person commits the offense of stealing if he or she takes property while in the possession of a deadly weapon. Such offense shall be a class B felony.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Attorney General's Office  
Department of Corrections  
Department of Public Safety - Missouri Highway Patrol

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Missouri Office of Prosecution Services  
Office of the State Courts Administrator  
Office of the State Public Defender



Julie Morff  
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March 11, 2025



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