

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7115

BILL NUMBER: HB 1417

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 6, 2026

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Causes of Action and Damages.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Lehman

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: *Transportation Network Company*: The bill prohibits a cause of action against a transportation network company (TNC) on a claim that arises from a TNC rider being injured by a TNC driver or during a TNC ride.

Public Nuisance Limitation: The bill limits a civil cause of action concerning a public nuisance.

Cause of Action of Criminal Acts: The bill prohibits certain causes of action against a property owner, a business owner, or a third party business operator for a criminal act committed by another person: (1) on the property; (2) at the business; or (3) on a premises; owned by another person.

Noneconomic Damage Limitation: The bill provides that noneconomic damages awarded in a civil suit may not be more than \$1,000,000.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Summary*: The limitation on noneconomic damages may reduce state expenses on future civil actions. Additionally, the bill places certain limitations on public nuisance actions and prohibits certain causes of action regarding criminal acts on property. These provisions could potentially reduce the workload of the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) in representing the state.

Additional Information: The bill defines certain terms, requiring that a public nuisance be an ongoing and unlawful condition (expressly prohibited by state or federal law) that proximately causes an interference with an established public right. It prohibits a cause of action for expressly permitted activities. It specifies that a public nuisance cause of action is available to a governmental entity if the unlawful condition is occurring within their jurisdiction.

Explanation of State Revenues: *Court Fee Revenue*: If fewer civil cases occur and court fees are collected, revenue to the state General Fund will decrease. The total revenue per case ranges between \$100 and \$122, depending on whether the case is filed in a court of record or a municipal court. The following linked

document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in civil, probate, and small claims cases.](#)

Public Nuisance Cause of Action: A governmental entity may only seek prospective injunctive relief, and may not recover economic, noneconomic, or exemplary damages or costs associated with a potential future harm.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Summary:* The limitation noneconomic damages may reduce local unit expenses on future civil actions. In addition, the bill could potentially reduce court caseloads by providing requirements for public nuisance cause of actions available to governmental entities and private persons and by prohibiting causes of action against property owners for criminal acts committed by other persons.

Additional Information:

Public Nuisance Cause of Action: A governmental entity may file a public nuisance cause of action if the unlawful condition is occurring within their jurisdiction.

Causes of Action Against Property Owners: The bill prohibits an action against a property owner, business owner, or third party business operator (who conducts business on any premises) for criminal acts committed by another person on the landowner or business owner's premises. It also prohibit any of these actions brought by a person who was the individual who committed the criminal act. If any of these actions are currently being brought, court caseloads may be reduced.

Explanation of Local Revenues: *Court Fee Revenue:* If fewer cases occur, less revenue will be collected by certain local units. For a case that is filed in a court of record, the county receives \$32 and qualifying municipalities receive a share of \$3. For a case that is filed in a municipal court, the county receives \$20, and the municipality receives \$37. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in civil, probate, and small claims cases.](#)

Public Nuisance Cause of Action: A governmental entity may only seek prospective injunctive relief for abatement of the public nuisance, and may not recover economic, noneconomic, or exemplary damages or costs associated with a potential future harm.

State Agencies Affected: All; Office of the Attorney General.

Local Agencies Affected: All local units; trial courts, city and town courts.

Information Sources: Indiana Supreme Court, Indiana Trial Court Fee Manual.

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