
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 1640 (Stefani) - California Restaurant Reservation AntiPiracy Act

Version: June 22, 2026

Policy Vote: JUD. 11 - 0, B., P. & E.D. 11
- 0

Urgency: No

Mandate: No

Hearing Date: August 13, 2026

Consultant: Janelle Miyashiro

Bill Summary: AB 1640 establishes the California Restaurant Reservation AntiPiracy Act, which prohibits a person from selling or transferring a restaurant reservation for an amount higher than that person paid to acquire the reservation unless expressly authorized by a written agreement with the restaurant.

***** ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE *****

The following information is revised to reflect amendments
adopted by the committee on August 13, 2026

Fiscal Impact: Unknown, potentially significant workload cost pressures to the state funded trial court system to adjudicate any civil cases filed as a result of this bill (Trial Court Trust Fund, General Fund). The fiscal impact of this bill to the courts will depend on many unknowns, including the number of cases filed and the factors unique to each case. An eight-hour court day costs approximately \$8,000 in staff in workload. If court days exceed 10, costs to the trial courts could reach hundreds of thousands of dollars. While the courts are not funded on a workload basis, an increase in workload could result in delayed court services and would put pressure on the General Fund to fund additional staff and resources and to increase the amount appropriated to backfill for trial court operations.

Author Amendments:

- Delete the new fund and instead require civil penalty revenue collected by the Attorney General to be deposited in the Department of Justice's existing Public Rights Law Enforcement Special Fund.

-- END --