
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 2664 (Bauer-Kahan) - Places of religious worship: unlawful activities

Version: April 16, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: June 29, 2026

Policy Vote: PUB. S. 5 - 0

Mandate: Yes

Consultant: Bob Franzoia

Bill Summary: AB 2664 would establish a misdemeanor when a person, within 100 feet from an entrance or exit of a place of religious worship, intentionally approaches another person or occupant of a motor vehicle within eight feet of that person or occupant, without consent, to pass a leaflet or handbill, display a sign, or engage in oral protest or education or to harass, obstruct, threaten or intimidate that person or occupant.

Fiscal Impact: Unknown, potentially significant court costs to adjudicate the new misdemeanor offense.

The fiscal impact will depend on the number of people charged with the new offense and the factors unique to each case. An eight-hour court day costs approximately \$10,500. Although the courts are not funded on the basis of workload, increased pressure on the Trial Court Trust Fund may create demand for increased funding. The 2026-27 Budget provides \$70 million to help pay for increased trial court operation costs (Trial Court Trust Fund, General Fund).

Unknown cost pressure on the counties depending on how the misdemeanor sentence is imposed. Actual costs will depend on the number of convictions and whether the punishment is incarceration, a fine, or both. The average annual cost to incarcerate one person in county jail is approximately \$77,250. In 2021 Los Angeles County budgeted \$1.3 billion for jail costs, including \$89,580 per incarcerated person. Generally, county incarceration costs are not reimbursable state mandates pursuant to Proposition 30 (2012).

Background: In 2023–24, over 4.8 million cases were filed statewide in the superior courts, including 179,821 felony cases and 451,647 misdemeanor cases.

Proposed Law: A first violation of the prohibition is a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not exceeding \$1,000, imprisonment in county jail not exceeding six months, or by both.

A second violation of the prohibition is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$5,000, imprisonment in county jail not exceeding one year, or both.

Related Legislation: SB 19 (Rubio) Chapter 594/2025 provides that any person who willfully threatens to commit a crime that will result in death or great bodily injury to another person or persons at a house of worship (as well as at a daycare, school, university, workplace, or medical facility) with specific intent that the statement is to be

taken as a threat, even if there is no intent of actually carrying it out, is guilty of a wobbler, provided other facts are true about the content of the threat and its impact on the recipient.