
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

SB 1130 (Reyes) - Invasion of privacy: wearable recording devices

Version: April 22, 2026

Policy Vote: PUB. S. 5 - 1, P., D.T., &
C.P. 7 - 2

Urgency: No

Mandate: Yes

Hearing Date: May 4, 2026

Consultant: Bob Franzoia

Bill Summary: SB 1130 would (2) prohibit a person from operating a wearable recording device to capture sound or video of any other person, where the person has a reasonable expectation of privacy and (2) prohibit a person from disabling any light or other device on a wearable recording device that indicates the device is capturing sound or video.

Fiscal Impact: Unknown, significant to major cost pressure (Trial Court Trust Fund, General Fund) to the courts to the extent there are additional civil filings for new violations created by this bill. Actual costs would depend on the number of violations and the amount of court time required for each action, for example violations of disabling any light or other device on a wearable recording device would involve a jury trial. Judicial Council of California (JCC) data indicates only seven percent of misdemeanors go to jury trials. Processing time for misdemeanors from time of filing to time of disposition ranges from 30 days to 120 days.

Although courts are not funded based on workload, increased pressure on the Trial Court Trust Fund may create a demand for increased funding for courts from the General Fund. The FY 2025-26 state budget provided \$82 million ongoing General Fund support to the Trial Court Trust Fund for court operations. The proposed FY 2026-07 budget would provide \$70 million ongoing General Fund support.

Background: As noted in the Senate Privacy, Digital Technologies and Consumer Protection analysis of this bill, last year alone, EssilorLuxottica, the maker of Ray Bans and Oakley glasses, sold over 7 million of their Meta “smart glasses.” The companies intend to raise production to almost 20 million by the end of this year. There are numerous brands currently available, but many are AI-enabled and have the functionality to take pictures and record videos. Reports indicate that Meta intends to equip their glasses with facial recognition technology, potentially as soon as this year.

Proposed Law: The bill would make a violation of operating a wearable recording device to capture sound or video of any other person punishable by a fine not exceeding \$1,500, by imprisonment as a misdemeanor, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

The bill would make a knowing violation of disabling any light or other device on a wearable recording device that indicates the device is capturing sound or video punishable by a civil penalty not exceeding \$2,500 per violation.