



[SF 135](#) – Interior Designers (LSB1358SV)

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Fiscal Note Version – New

### **Description**

[Senate File 135](#) relates to the practice of interior design in the State and makes the following changes: defines terms, makes conforming Iowa Code changes, provides exemptions for interior design regulations, requires registered interior designers to stamp and seal interior technical submissions they issue, provides penalties for misuse of the seal, and creates requirements for registered interior design. The Bill restricts registered interior designers from engaging in duties or actions that would result in a conflict of interest.

A simple misdemeanor penalty is created under Iowa Code chapter [544C](#) for using a registered interior designer's seal without permission or fraudulently, or for impersonating a registered interior designer or attempting to obtain a registration by fraud.

### **Background**

Currently, the Interior Design Examining Board and provisions regulating interior designers are established in Iowa Code chapter 544C.

A simple misdemeanor is punishable by confinement for up to 30 days and a fine of at least \$105 but not more than \$855.

### **Assumptions**

- The following will not change over the projection period: charge, conviction, and sentencing patterns and trends; prisoner length of stay (LOS); revocation rates; plea bargaining; and other criminal justice system policies and practices.
- A lag effect of six months is assumed from the effective date of this Bill to the date of first entry of affected offenders into the correctional system.
- Marginal costs for county jails cannot be estimated due to a lack of data. For purposes of this analysis, the marginal cost for county jails is assumed to be \$50 per day.

### **Correctional Impact**

Senate File 135 creates a new criminal offense, and the correctional impact cannot be estimated for the Bill due to a lack of existing conviction data. A conviction for a simple misdemeanor does not result in a prison sentence, but does carry the possibility of confinement for up to 30 days. Marginal county jail costs are estimated to be \$50 per day. Refer to the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) memo addressed to the General Assembly, [Cost Estimates Used for Correctional Impact Statements](#), dated January 20, 2023, for information related to the correctional system.

### **Minority Impact**

Senate File 135 establishes a new offense. As a result, the Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning (CJJP) of the Department of Human Rights cannot use existing data to estimate the minority impact of the Bill. Refer to the LSA memo addressed to the General Assembly, [Minority Impact Statement](#), dated January 20, 2023, for information related to minorities in the criminal justice system.

### **Fiscal Impact**

Senate File 135 establishes a new criminal offense, and the fiscal impact cannot be estimated due to a lack of existing conviction data. The average State cost per offense for a simple misdemeanor ranges from \$35 to \$375.

### **Sources**

Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning, Department of Human Rights  
Legislative Services Agency

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/s/ Jennifer Acton

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The fiscal note for this Bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.

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