



[SF 2208](#) – Weather Engineering, Prohibition (LSB5362SV)
Staff Contact: Nathan Moore (515.725.0155) nathan.moore@legis.iowa.gov
Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

[Senate File 2208](#) prohibits geoengineering activities including polluting atmospheric activity, cloud seeding, or any other form of weather engineering with the intent to manipulate or alter the weather. A violation of these prohibited activities results in a Class D felony.

The Bill directs the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to issue an immediate cease-and-desist order to any person suspected of violating the prohibition. A cease-and-desist order issued by the DPS has the weight of a court order. Each day a violation occurs, continues, or is repeated constitutes a separate offense.

The Bill takes effect upon enactment.

Background

A Class D felony is punishable by confinement for up to five years and a fine of at least \$1,025 but not more than \$10,245.

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.
- County jail data is unavailable. For purposes of this analysis, the marginal cost for county jails is assumed to be \$50 per day.
- Conviction data reflects the total number of convictions in adult court, which may include multiple convictions per individual. Not all convictions lead to incarceration, and there may be a delay between conviction and prison admission, which can contribute to differences in totals.
- A six-month delay is assumed from the effective date of the Bill to the date the first offender will enter the correctional system.
- Offender-based convictions are a count of individuals convicted of the same offense. Each offender is counted only once per Iowa Code section, regardless of the number of individual convictions.
- Admissions are a count of individuals newly admitted to the Department of Corrections (DOC) for supervision during a selected time period, based on the most serious offense committed.

Correctional Impact

Senate File 2208 creates a new offense, therefore the impact on prison admissions, LOS, community-based supervision, or other correctional resources cannot be determined. **Figure 1** shows estimates for sentencing to State prison, parole, probation, or Community-Based Corrections (CBC) residential facilities; LOS in months under those supervisions; and supervision marginal costs per day for a Class D felony.

Figure 1 — Sentencing Estimates and Length of Stay (LOS) in Months

Conviction Offense Class	Percent Ordered to State Prison	FY 2025 Avg LOS in Prison (All Releases)	Marginal Cost Per Day Prison	Percent Ordered to Probation	FY 2025 Field Avg LOS on Probation	Avg Cost Per Day Probation	Marginal Cost Per Day CBC	Marginal Cost Per Day Jail	FY 2025 Field Avg LOS on Parole	Marginal Cost Per Day Parole
D Felony Non-Persons	84.20%	12.5	\$23.07	69.40%	41.4	\$8.00	\$16.35	\$50.00	15.5	\$8.00

Refer to the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) memo addressed to the General Assembly, [Cost Estimates Used for Correctional Impact Statements](#), dated January 12, 2026, for information related to the correctional system.

Minority Impact

Senate File 2208 creates a new offense, and as a result, existing data cannot be used to estimate whether enforcement or sentencing under the Bill would disproportionately affect minority populations. Refer to the LSA memo addressed to the General Assembly, [Minority Impact Statements](#), dated January 12, 2026, for information related to minorities in the criminal justice system.

Fiscal Impact

Senate File 2208 creates new criminal offenses and places the enforcement responsibilities on the DPS. Any potential fiscal impact would depend on the number of investigations, cease-and-desist orders issued, prosecutions, convictions, and sentences resulting from the enactment of SF 2208. Due to the creation of a new offense, the fiscal impact on the State, including enforcement, judicial, and correctional costs, cannot be determined. **Figure 2** shows the average State cost per Class D felony. The estimated impact to the General Fund includes operating costs incurred by the Judicial Branch, the Indigent Defense Fund, and the DOC. The cost would be incurred across multiple fiscal years for prison and parole supervision.

Figure 2 — Average State Cost Per Offense

Offense Class	Average Cost
Class D Felony	\$13,000 to \$18,100

Sources

Department of Corrections
 Division of Data, Planning, and Improvement (DPI), Department of Management (DOM)
 Department of Public Safety

/s/ Jennifer Acton

February 16, 2026

Doc ID 1600078

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.
