

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

LS 6632

BILL NUMBER: HB 1083

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 16, 2024

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Protection of Property Rights.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Pressel

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill defines "squatter" as an individual who occupies the residential real property of another and who does not have and has never had: (1) a rental agreement; (2) permission of the owner; or (3) another legal interest in the residential real property; authorizing the individual to occupy the residential real property. It provides that under certain circumstances, a property owner may obtain an expedited removal of a squatter from the property owner's residential real property.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: If additional civil cases occur from individuals who believe that they were wrongfully removed from the property and court fees are collected, revenue to the state General Fund will increase. The total revenue per case would range between \$100 and \$122. The amount deposited will vary depending on whether the case is filed in a court of record or a municipal court. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in civil, probate, and small claims cases](#).

Explanation of Local Expenditures: This bill's provisions may result in an increase in both the workload and costs for local law enforcement agencies since the bill provides an additional process for residential real property owners to remove individuals from their property beyond the current eviction statutes and processes. The actual fiscal impact will vary from county to county and will be determined by the number of cases involving individuals defined as a "squatter" under the bill's provisions.

Explanation of Local Revenues: This bill's provisions may result in an increase in fee revenue for local law enforcement agencies since the bill provides that a local law enforcement agency that serves notice to and removes a squatter is entitled to a fee for service. The actual amount of revenue received will vary among local jurisdictions and will be determined by the number of cases involving individuals defined as a "squatter" under the bill's provisions and the amount of service fee that a local jurisdiction may assess.

Furthermore, if additional cases occur from individuals who believe that they were wrongfully removed from the property, revenue will be collected by certain local units. If the case is filed in a court of record, the county will receive \$32 and qualifying municipalities will receive a share of \$3. If the case is filed in a municipal court, the county receives \$20, and the municipality will receive \$37. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in civil, probate, and small claims cases](#).

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, city and town courts; Local law enforcement agencies.

Information Sources: Indiana Supreme Court, Indiana Trial Court Fee Manual.

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