

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB1854
Version:	ENGR
Request Number:	
Author:	Rep. Kannady
Date:	4/3/2024
Impact:	AOC: Revenue positive State Budget: No material impact

Research Analysis

Engrossed SB 1854 prohibits any person from setting up unauthorized camps on state-owned lands. An *unauthorized camp* is defined in the measure as any tent, shelter, or bedding constructed for overnight sleeping on property not designated as a campsite. Violators are subject to a \$50 fine or up to 15 days in the county jail or both if convicted. A first offense will result in a warning and the arresting officer may not issue a citation unless the violator refuses assistance such as transportation to a shelter or food pantry, or other available indigent resources.

Prepared By: Keana Swadley

Fiscal Analysis

This measure creates in statute a misdemeanor offense for persons that set up an "unauthorized camp" on state-owned land. Violators of this offense are subject to a \$50 fine or up to 15 days in the county jail, or both if convicted. However, a person who commits a first violation of this offense shall be issued a warning, and a citation may not be issued unless the person refuses any assistance offered to them by the arresting officer. Such assistance may include, but is not limited to, transportation to a shelter, food pantry, or other place where resources are made available to assist the indigent and homeless. In its current form, SB1854 has the potential to generate some fines for the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), but is not anticipated to have a material impact on state budget or appropriations.

Prepared By: Robert Flipping IV, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.