

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 89TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 11, 2025**

**TO:** Honorable Pete Flores, Chair, Senate Committee on Criminal Justice

**FROM:** Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: SB1281** by Parker (Relating to certain theft offenses involving mail or a mail receptacle key or lock; creating a criminal offense; increasing a criminal penalty.), **As Introduced**

The impact on state correctional populations or on the demand for state correctional resources cannot be determined due to a lack of data to estimate the prevalence of conduct outlined in the bill's provisions that would be subject to criminal penalties.

The bill would expand the conduct constituting the criminal offense of mail theft to include when the intent of the theft is to steal a negotiable instrument. Mail theft of a negotiable instrument would be punishable across a range of penalties from a state jail felony to a first degree felony according to the number of negotiable instruments stolen, with increased punishment at the next higher category in certain circumstances when the addressee was a disabled or elderly individual. The bill would also create the felony offense of theft of mail receptacle key or lock, making the improper or unlawful manipulation, possession, or use of a postal service key or lock punishable as a first degree felony.

The Office of Court Administration (OCA) and the Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA) indicate that the fiscal impact to the state cannot be determined.

**Local Government Impact**

While the fiscal impact cannot be determined, creating a new criminal offense and expanding conduct constituting an existing offense may result in increased demands upon local correctional resources due to a possible increase in the number of individuals placed under supervision in the community or confined in local facilities.

**Source Agencies:** 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts

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