

B.U.S.I.N.E.S.S. P.E.R.I.M.E.T.E.R. Act

Business Use Safety through Interference-free, Neutral, Enforced, Speech Spaces – Perimeter Act

Section 1. Short Title

This Act shall be known and may be cited as the “Business Perimeter Protection Act.”

Section 2. Legislative Findings and Purpose

The Legislature finds that:

Businesses and religious buildings have a right to operate without obstruction, intimidation, or disruption.

Protests conducted on private commercial property and parking areas have, in some cases, interfered with customer access, employee safety, and emergency response.

The purpose of this Act is not to restrict lawful speech, but to establish reasonable time, place, and manner rules that protect private property rights and public safety.

Section 3. Definitions

- a. “Business” means any privately owned commercial establishment, including retail stores, offices, restaurants, warehouses, and industrial facilities.
- b. “Private Business Property” means all land, buildings, parking lots, driveways, loading zones, and exterior areas owned or leased by a business.
- c. “Protest or Demonstration” means any organized or unorganized gathering of two or more persons intended to express political, ideological, social, or religious views through chanting, signage, amplified speech, marching, or similar conduct.
- d. “Public Right-of-Way” means public sidewalks, streets, and areas traditionally open for public pedestrian travel.

Section 4. Prohibited Conduct

No person shall organize, lead, participate in, or encourage a protest or demonstration on Private Business Property without the express permission of the business owner or authorized agent.

No person shall conduct a protest or demonstration in a business parking lot, driveway, loading zone, or building entrance.

Protests and demonstrations must be conducted only on public sidewalks or public right-of-way, and must not block pedestrian or vehicle traffic.

This prohibition applies regardless of viewpoint or subject matter.

Section 5. Exceptions

This Act does not prohibit:

- a. Lawful expressive activity conducted on public sidewalks that does not obstruct access.
- b. Peaceful activity conducted on business property with written or verbal permission from the owner or authorized manager.
- c. Individual expression that is not part of an organized protest and does not disrupt business operations.

Section 6. Penalties

A person who knowingly violates this Act or unknowingly is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by:

- A fine of not more than \$1,000, and/or
- Imprisonment for not more than 90 days.

Each day a violation continues constitutes a separate offense.

Section 7. Enhanced Penalty — Serious Business Interference

A person who, during a violation:

- a. Blocks entrances or exits;
- b. Obstructs customers or employees;
- c. Uses amplified sound devices; or
- d. Engages in threatening, harassing, or intimidating conduct

is guilty of a gross misdemeanor punishable by:

- A fine of not more than \$2,000, and/or
- Imprisonment for not more than 180 days.

Section 8. Enforcement

Local and state law enforcement agencies are authorized to enforce this Act.

Officers may order violators to disperse and may arrest when necessary to restore order.

Section 9. Civil Liability Protection

No business owner, employee, or law enforcement officer acting in good faith under this Act shall be subject to civil liability for enforcement actions.

Section 10. Severability

If any provision of this Act is held invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

Business Perimeter Protection Act:

- Protects businesses' right to operate without disruption or intimidation
- Prohibits protests and demonstrations on private business property without owner permission
- Bans protests in business parking lots, driveways, loading zones, and entrances
- Requires protests to stay on public sidewalks or public right-of-way
- Applies equally to all viewpoints and causes
- Allows peaceful activity on business property only with owner approval
- Allows lawful, non-obstructive expression on public sidewalks
- Creates misdemeanor penalties for violations of 1,000 dollars or 90 days in jail
- Establishes enhanced penalties for blocking entrances, using amplified sound, or intimidating customers or employees (see that way too muc\

- Authorizes law enforcement to order dispersal and make arrests when necessary
- Provides civil liability protection for businesses and officers enforcing the law