



### **Part III: Fiscal Explanation, Bill Provisions, and Estimated Cost**

#### **HB 269 would have no to minimal fiscal impact on local jails or local law enforcement.**

Law enforcement reports that HB 269 would have no to minimal impact on local governments. Since stalking is already a criminal offense in Kentucky to which law enforcement responds, including it in the definition of domestic violence and abuse would not increase the enforcement or administrative burden on local law enforcement.

Harassing Communications is a Class B misdemeanor. Expanding the definition to include electronic communications has the potential to minimally increase Class B misdemeanor convictions for Harassing Communications. A person convicted of a Class B misdemeanor may be incarcerated for up to 90 days in one of Kentucky's 78 full service jails or five life safety jails. While the expense of housing inmates varies by jail, each additional inmate increases facility costs by an estimated average of \$31.34 per day. While the majority of misdemeanor defendants are granted bail, those who do not will also cost local jails an average of \$31.34 per day.

**Data Source(s):** Kentucky County Attorneys' Association, Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police, LRC staff

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