Local Mandate Fiscal Impact Estimate Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2015 Regular Session

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 365
Bill #: SB 117 GA
Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT relating to county attorney operated traffic safety programs.
Sponsor: Senator Whitney H. Westerfield
Unit of Government: X City X County X Urban-County X Charter County X Consolidated Local X Government
Office(s) Impacted: County Attorney, County Treasurer, Sheriff, Police Departments, Jails
Requirement: X Mandatory Optional
Effect on Powers & Duties: Modifies ExistingX Adds New Eliminates Existing Part II: Purpose and Mechanics

SB 117 GA establishes an additional \$30 fee payable to County Attorneys who have implemented a County Attorney Traffic Safety Program (CATS) in lieu of court cost. Offenders may opt for this before adjudication. This proposal requires the County Attorney to forward the \$30 fees collected to the Finance and Administration Cabinet (FAC); 58.1% of which will be distributed back to local governments. This analysis only considers only the portion returned to local governments:

- 16.8% of the total fee remitted to the FAC goes to the sheriff in the county from which the fees were received;
- 9.1% of the total fee remitted to the FAC goes to the county treasurer in the county from which the fees were received to defray cost of operating a jail or transporting prisoners;

- 32.2% of the fee remitted to FAC goes to local governments and will be allocated as provided by KRS 24A.176(5):
 - 30% is distributed equally to all local governments that either have police departments or contract for police services;
 - 50% goes to all local governments with police departments on a per capita basis according to the number of certified officers employed or if contracted for, the local government shall be considered to employ one officer for each sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) expended under written contract.
 - 20% is distributed equally to counties operating jails or transporting prisoners.

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

The fiscal impact of SB 117 GA on local government is expected to be approximately one-half million dollars.

Based on 2014 data, 73 county attorneys have implemented a CATS. That number may increase at the discretion of a county attorney. In 2014, there were 28,240 offenders who participated in their local CATS. Based on that number of offenders paying an additional \$30, we may project a total of \$847,200 will be paid to the FAC.

Of the amount remitted to the FAC by the participating county attorneys, 58.1% or \$492,223 will be returned to local governments:

- 16.8% or \$142,330 will be returned to the sheriff of the county from which it came,
- 9.1% or \$77,095 will be returned to the county treasurer of the county from which it came, and
- 32.2 % or \$272,798 will be returned to local governments per the guidelines provided for in KRS 24A.176(5). The projected KRS 24A.176(5) breakdown based on the 2014 data is:
 - 30% or \$81,839 to local governments with police departments or that contract for police service, FAC distributed equally to 11 county & urban county governments, 236 municipalities, and 42 contracted municipalities;
 - 50% or \$136,399 based on the number of certified officers employed, FAC distributed quarterly to 11 county & urban county governments, 236 municipalities, and 10 contracted municipalities (32 municipalities had contracts for police services for less than \$60,000); and

- 20% or \$54,560 to counties with fiscal responsibilities for jails or the transportation of prisoners, FAC distributed equally to 120 counties.

Data Source(s): Kentucky County Attorneys Association, Prosecutors Advisory Council

within the Attorney General's Office; Finance and Administration Cabinet

- Division of Local Governments, LRC Staff.

Preparer: Wendell F. Butler **Reviewer:** MCY **Date:** 2/24/15