Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2018 Regular Session

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 988
Bill #: _ HB 447
Document ID #: 5088
Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT relating to animal torture.
Sponsor: Rep. Walker W. Thomas
Unit of Government: x City x County x Urban-County Unified Local
<u>x</u> Charter County <u>x</u> Consolidated Local <u>x</u> Government
Office(s) Impacted: local jails
Requirement: <u>x</u> Mandatory Optional
Effect on Powers & Duties:x _ Modifies Existing Adds New Eliminates Existing

Part II: Bill Provisions and the Estimated Fiscal Impact Relating to Local Government

HB 447 amends KRS 525.135 relating to torture of a dog or cat **to prohibit any form of early release** for those who committed the offense as a way to threaten, intimidate, coerce, harass, or terrorize a family member or member of a dating relationship.

The fiscal impact of HB 447 is indeterminate and minimal. Any Class A misdemeanor and Class D felony incarcerations for animal torture offenses will be of longer duration as a consequence of the provisions of this bill. The costs and reimbursements associated with Class A misdemeanor and Class D felony incarcerations are described below.

A person convicted of a Class A misdemeanor may be incarcerated for up to twelve months. Misdemeanants are housed in one of Kentucky's 76 full service jails or four life safety jails. While the expense of housing inmates varies by jail, this estimated impact will be based on \$31.34 per day, which equals the per diem and medical expenses that the Department of Corrections pays jails to house felony offenders. 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.

When a court denies bail to a Class D felony defendant, the local government is responsible for incarcerating the defendant until disposition of the case in one of Kentucky's 76 full service jails or four 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, which equals the per diem and medical expenses that the Department of Corrections pays jails to house felony offenders. Upon sentencing, a Class D felon is housed in one of Kentucky's full service jails for the duration of his or her sentence. The Department of Corrections pays a jail \$31.34 per day to house a D felon. Since the per diem pays for the estimated average cost of housing a Class D felon, the per diem may be less than, equal to, or greater than the actual housing cost.

Part III: Differences to Local Government Mandate Statement from Prior Versions

The Part II section above pertains to the bill as introduced and there are not any prior introduced versions of the bill to complete the Part III section.

 Data Source(s):
 Kentucky Jailers Association; Kentucky Department of Corrections

 Preparer:
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 Reviewer:
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 Date:
 2/26/18