

Section 2 amends KRS 15.386 to prohibit peace officers who have been convicted of the various misdemeanor offenses and inchoate offenses under KRS Chapter 510 as listed in Section 1, from returning to active certification from inactive status.

Similarly, Section 3 amends KRS 15.391 to provide that a peace officer's certification shall be revoked if he or she pleads guilty to, is convicted of, or enters an Alford plea to various misdemeanor offenses and inchoate offenses under KRS Chapter 510.

The overall fiscal impact of this legislation is indeterminable. Any vacancy in a peace officer position likely has a negative impact on the agency's budget, but the overall effect is expected to be minimal.

Local law enforcement agencies are not likely to retain a peace officer who has lost their certification. These agencies typically deal with staff turnover, including peace officers in the normal course of business. The fiscal impact of replacing an officer whose certification has been revoked, is not likely to be significant. Law enforcement agencies still incur expenses in filling vacant peace officer positions. In cases where hiring an already trained and certified peace officer is not possible, local agencies will have costs associated with recruiting and training. According to the Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training (DCJT), the cost for pre-employment screening of prospective law enforcement officers ranges between \$400 and \$500. Reimbursement is sought from the requesting agency of \$181 with the balance covered by Kentucky Law Enforcement Council. The cost of law enforcement basic training is borne entirely by DCJT, whose primary funding source is the Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program fund. Kentucky law enforcement agencies do not pay for any costs of basic training, however, the hiring agencies pay salary to their cadets throughout their training. The Law Enforcement Basic Training Academy takes 20 weeks to complete the 824.5-hour curriculum. During this time, local agencies pay the cadets salary. Additionally, it is likely the agency will also have increased salary costs due to overtime for existing officers to cover the vacancies.

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

Part II, above, pertains to the bill as drafted.

Data Source(s): LRC Staff, Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training

Preparer: Mark Offerman

Reviewer: KHC

Date: 2/3/21