

offerings be offered throughout the calendar year and spread over a reasonable period of time.

HB 565 SCS 1 retains the original provisions of the bill and adds a **subsection (6)**. **Subsection 6** clarifies that the program shall not be interpreted to be an independent study and makes changes to make sure recipients of the Post-9/11 GI Bill are eligible for all available benefits. The Kentucky Approving Agency for Veterans Education shall be required to seek a formal opinion of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs regarding its decision to classify the program as independent study. If the program is classified as independent study or a formal opinion isn't received then the DOCJT will be required to make in-person instruction available for the Post-9/11 GI bill recipients. The DOCJT will be required to make payments to the trainee an amount equal to the benefits the trainee would have received under the Post-9/11 GI Bill. If sufficient funds aren't available within the Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund, the law enforcement agency employing the trainee shall make these payments to the trainee.

The fiscal impact of HB 565 SCS 1 on local government is expected to be minimal, but positive. The cost of law enforcement basic training is borne entirely by DOCJT, whose primary funding source is the Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund (KLEFPF). Law enforcement agencies do not pay for any costs of basic training, however, they pay the cadet's salary throughout their training.

Currently, the Law Enforcement Basic Training Academy takes 20 weeks to complete the 824.5 hour curriculum. The 10% threshold for basic training could reduce the 20 weeks to 18 weeks enabling newly trained officers to perform duties for their law enforcement agency two weeks sooner. This could have a positive impact by reducing overtime pay derived from staffing shortages. The 30% threshold for annual in-service training could provide cost savings in the form of reduced travel for current officers and reduced overtime for scheduling law enforcement coverage if an officer is traveling to complete the training.

There is an unlikely chance of a negative fiscal impact on local government due to the provisions requiring the local law enforcement agency to pay the trainee an amount equal to the amount that would have been received under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

The Fraternal Order of Police was contacted for input. As of the submission of this Local Mandate Statement, a response has not been received. When a response is received, the statement may be updated accordingly.

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

Part II, above, pertains to the bill as amended by SCS 1.

SCS 1 amends the bill by adding provisions to ensure Post-9/11 GI Bill recipients receive full benefits or equivalent compensation.

The fiscal impact remains unchanged from the GA version of the bill.

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

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