Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2023 Regular Session

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 926
Bill #: _HB 164 GA
Document ID #: 4385
Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT relating to jail standards.
Sponsor: Representative Samara Heavrin
Unit of Government: City X County Urban-County Unified Local
Charter County Consolidated Local Government
Office(s) Impacted: County Jails
Requirement: X 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 164 GA amends KRS 441.055 to change the state minimum age requirement for persons working within the secure perimeter of jails that hold or do not hold state prisoners from 21 (as established in 501 KAR 7:040) to 18.

HB 164 GA would have an indeterminate to positive fiscal impact on counties with jails that hold state prisoners. According to the Kentucky Jailer's Association (KJA), vacancies in jails are commonly unfilled due to a lack of applicants, though it is not known how many of these positions are currently unfilled statewide. However, KJA has stated that increasing the pool of potential applicants by lowering the minimum age for persons working in jails would allow jails to fill the positions that are currently funded. Easing this staff shortage would have some positive fiscal impacts by allowing employees to work less overtime, which would also have a positive effect on employee morale and thereby increase retention. This could in turn have the positive effect of decreasing training costs for new employees.

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

Part II refers to HB 164 GA version. The GA version of HB 164 is the same as the bill introduced and does not change the fiscal impact of the bill as introduced. HB 164 passed its chamber of origin without amendments or substitutes.

Data Source(s): <u>Kentucky Jailer's Association</u>

Preparer: Ryan Brown (MS) Reviewer: KHC Date: 2/24/23