

**Local Government Mandate Statement
Kentucky Legislative Research Commission
2023 Regular Session**

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 284

Bill #: HB 223

Document ID #: 1439

Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT relating to police officer mental health.

Sponsor: Representative Chris Freeland

Unit of Government: City County Urban-County
Unified Local
 Charter County Consolidated Local Government

Office(s) Impacted: Law enforcement agencies

Requirement: Mandatory Optional

Effect on Powers & Duties: Modifies Existing Adds New Eliminates Existing

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

HB 223 amends KRS 15.440 by adding “a written policy and procedures manual related to police officer mental health programs” to the requirements for being eligible to receive Law Enforcement Foundation program funds. Such manuals must include procedures that allow police officers to use sick leave to attend mental health counseling or, if they do not have sufficient sick leave, some mechanism that provides up to 4 hours of paid or unpaid leave per month to attend sessions; supervisors to receive specialized training on supporting police officers with mental health needs; provide funds to reimburse the cost of mental health treatment as funds become available.

The fiscal impact of HB 223 on local governments is indeterminable, but expected to be minimal.

HB 223 will result in minimal administrative costs for those law enforcement agencies that need to create new policies and procedures for governing their mental health program.

Providing police officers paid leave when they do not have enough earned sick leave cover the time spent at a mental health care provider will be an added cost, but the exact cost is indeterminable since it is not known how many police officers would need to take advantage of this provision.

There would also be an indeterminable cost to reimbursing officers for mental health care expenses. The specialized training required of supervisors could easily be incorporated into existing in-service training classes and is not expected to have a significant fiscal impact.

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

The analysis presented above in Part II is based on HB 223 as introduced. There are no previous versions for comparison.

Data Source(s): LRC Staff

Preparer: CTH (WB) **Reviewer:** KHC **Date:** 2/21/23