

**Local Government Mandate Statement
Kentucky Legislative Research Commission
2024 Regular Session**

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 113

Bill #: HB 240

Document ID #: 1640

Bill Title: AN ACT relating to firearms.

Sponsor: Representative Lindsey Burke

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

Office(s) Impacted: Law Enforcement, Jails

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 240 creates new sections of KRS Chapter 237 to require owners of firearms to safely store and report any loss or theft of their firearms to law enforcement.

Section 1 requires that owners or custodians of a firearm to not leave their firearm without securely locking it in a safe storage depository or placing a gun-locking device on it. Failing to do so is a Class A misdemeanor.

Section 2 requires gun owners who suffer the loss or theft of their firearm or any person who sells ammunition who suffers a loss or theft to report the facts and circumstances of the loss, as well as relevant information on what was lost, to law enforcement within 24 hours of the discovery of the loss. Failing to do so is a Class A misdemeanor. The law enforcement agency shall enter the reported information into the National Crime Information Center database.

The expected fiscal impact of HB 240 is indeterminable, though likely slightly negative. The bill creates two new Class A misdemeanors, so there is no past conviction data with which to base an estimate of likely costs. Additionally, the bill requires law enforcement to enter more reported information into the National Crime Information Center database, so this would necessitate a greater amount of time required for administrative work, though it is not clear if the extra amount of work would be enough to necessitate greater expenditures on personnel.

A person convicted of a Class A misdemeanor may be incarcerated for up to twelve months. Misdemeanants are housed in one of Kentucky's 74 full-service jails or three life safety jails. While the expense of housing inmates varies by jail, this estimated impact will be based on an average cost to incarcerate of \$44.97 per day. While the majority of misdemeanor defendants are granted bail, those who do not will also cost local jails an average cost to incarcerate of \$44.97 per day.

Data Source(s): LRC Staff; Department of Corrections

Preparer: Ryan Brown (BL) **Reviewer:** KHC **Date:** 2/6/24