Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2024 Regular Session

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 1544						
Bill #: HB 373						
Document ID #: <u>3846</u>						
Bill Title: AN ACT relating to gun safety for children.						
Sponsor: Representative George A. Brown Jr.						
Unit of Government: X City X County X Urban-County Unified Local Unified Local						
$\underline{\mathbf{X}}$ Charter County $\underline{\mathbf{X}}$ Consolidated Local $\underline{\mathbf{X}}$ Government						
Office(s) Impacted: Law Enforcement, Jails						
Requirement: X Mandatory Optional						
Effect on Powers & Duties: Modifies ExistingX_ Adds New Eliminates Existing						

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

HB 373 defines the offense of unlawful storage of a firearm as when a person either recklessly stores or leaves a firearm that is not properly secured in a manner which allows a minor to access it, or when a minor accesses a firearm without the permission of their parent or guardian. Unlawful storage of a firearm is a Class B misdemeanor, unless the use of the firearm by the minor results in physical injury or death, in which case it is a Class A misdemeanor.

The estimated fiscal impact of HB 373 is indeterminable, though likely slightly negative. As this creates a new offense, there is no past conviction data with which to base a projection of likely costs to local jails. However, the daily cost of housing inmates charged with this offense are outlined in the paragraph below.

A person convicted of a Class B misdemeanor may be incarcerated for up to 90 days. 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.

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