Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2024 Regular Session

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #: 1299
Bill #: SB 209
Document ID #: 2358
Bill Title: AN ACT relating to forensic processing of firearms.
Sponsor: Senator Karen A. Berg
Unit of Government: X City X County X Urban-County Unified Local
X Charter County X Consolidated Local X Government
Office(s) Impacted: Law enforcement
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

SB 209 creates a new section of KRS Chapter 15 to require law enforcement agencies to transmit information to national law enforcement databases about firearms collected during criminal investigations. This includes ballistic results from test-firing firearms and spent shell casing recovered at a crime scene.

The fiscal impact on local law enforcement is unknown, but expected to be minimally negative. The legislation does not identify the specific crime labs to be used for the forensic analyses. The Kentucky State Police (KSP) has six crime labs throughout the state. This analysis assumes that local law enforcement would use one of these crime labs. According to KSP, they receive and process all evidence brought to them for analysis, including firearms and spent shell casings. The testing is done at no charge to the local law enforcement agency. The items tested and the corresponding test results are returned to the local agency. Any data entered into a specific database is done at the local level.

Data Source(s): LRC Staff; Kentucky State Police

Preparer:Ryan Brown (BL)Reviewer:KHCDate:2/28/24