## Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2025 Regular Session

## **Part I: Measure Information**

Bill Request #:	1460	Bill #:	HB 515
<b>Document ID #:</b>	3025	Sponsor:	Rep. Joshua Watkins
Bill Title:	AN ACT relating to the Office of Safer Communities, making an		
	appropriation therfor, and declaring an emergency		
	-		
Unit of	☑ City ☑	County	□ Urban-County
Government:		Consolid	ated Local
Office(s) Impacted:       Law Enforcement, Coroners         Requirement:			
Effect on Powers & Duties:			
Other Fiscal Statement(s)			

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

HB 515 adds a new section to KRS Chapter 12 creating the Office of Safer Communities. The agency will be attached to the Office of the Governor, and will report to the Governor. The office will develop strategies to coordinate and promote effective ways to reduce community violence by working with local, state and federal government agencies.

The office is tasked with creating and implementing a plan for collection, assessment and analysis of data including geographic locations of community violence, nature of community violence, frequency of incidents, number of victims and impacts of gun violence by demographic group. The office shall also staff, collect, disseminate data, and make recommendations relating to school-based mental health services in high-need local and state educational agencies.

The fiscal impact of HB 515 on local government is expected to be minimally negative. Each year, law enforcement agencies and coroners would be required to report

all statistical data involving community violence for the previous calendar year. Meetin
these reporting requirements may be associated with small staffing cost increases.

**Data Source(s):** LRC Staff

 Preparer:
 HT
 Reviewer:
 JB (MDA)
 Date:
 2/13/25