

**Local Government Mandate Statement
Kentucky Legislative Research Commission
2026 Regular Session**

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #:	8	Bill #:	HB 299
Document ID #:	875	Sponsor:	Rep. Jason M. Nemes
Bill Title:	AN ACT relating to machine gun conversion devices.		

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

Office(s) Impacted: Jails

Requirement: ☒ Mandatory ☐ Optional

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

Other Fiscal Statement(s) that may exist: ☐ Actuarial Analysis ☒ Corrections Impact
 ☐ Health Benefit Mandate ☐ State Employee Health Plan

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

The bill adds a new section to KRS Chapter 527 that classifies the intentional ownership or sale of parts designed to convert a firearm into a machine gun as a Class C felony. State and local law enforcement officers are exempt while acting in an official capacity.

HB 299 would have an indeterminate negative fiscal impact on local jails and law enforcement. The number of potential violations cannot be determined; however, this act will increase costs to local jails and law enforcement due to investigations and the incarceration of offenders.

When a court denies bail to a Class C felony defendant, the local government is responsible for incarcerating the defendant until disposition of the case in one of Kentucky's 74 full service jails or three life safety jails. While the expense of housing inmates varies by jail, each additional inmate increases facility costs by an average cost to incarcerate of \$44.97, which includes the \$35.34 per diem and medical expenses that the Department of Corrections pays jails to house felony offenders. Class C felons are ineligible for placement in local jails until they are classified at the lowest custody level

with 24 months or less to their minimum expiration date or parole eligibility date. The Department of Corrections pays local jails \$35.34 per day to house these Class C felons. The per diem may be less than, equal to, or greater than the actual housing cost.

Data Source(s): Department of Corrections

Preparer: TJ **Reviewer:** AS (MDA) **Date:** 12/18/25