

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

Part I: Measure Information

| | | | |
|------------------------|--|-----------------|----------------------|
| Bill Request #: | 1531 | Bill #: | HB 305 |
| Document ID #: | 2622 | Sponsor: | Rep. Candy Massaroni |
| Bill Title: | AN ACT relating to grand jury service. | | |

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

Office(s) Impacted: Department of Corrections, 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

HB 305 Section 1 adds a new section to KRS Chapter 29A stating a person present during a grand jury proceeding shall not record any testimony or evidence presented during that proceeding. Additionally, they cannot disclose information gathered while present that the proceeding.

Section 2 makes it a Class A misdemeanor to violate this statute. However, if the person who violates Section 1 is a public servant, they are guilty of a Class D felony.

The fiscal impact of HB 623 on local government is indeterminable, but is expected to be negative. This bill creates a new misdemeanor and felony, resulting in the potential for increased cost for investigations and court proceedings.

Along with the additional costs mentioned above, 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 \$47.43 per day. While most misdemeanor defendants are granted bail, those who do not will also cost local jails an average cost to incarcerate of \$47.43 per day.

When a court denies bail to a Class D 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 \$47.43, which includes the \$35.34 per diem and medical expenses that the Department of Corrections pays jails to house felony offenders. Upon sentencing, a Class D felon is housed in one of Kentucky's full-service jails for the duration of his or her sentence. The Department of Corrections pays a jail \$35.34 per day to house a Class D felon. The per diem may be less than, equal to, or greater than the actual housing cost.

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

Preparer: JR **Reviewer:** AS (MDA) **Date:** 2/3/26