

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

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #:	1424	Bill #:	HB 312/GA
Document ID #:	4014	Sponsor:	Rep. Savannah Maddox
Bill Title:	AN ACT relating to concealed firearms and deadly weapons		

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

Office(s) Impacted: Local governments, Sheriffs

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 312/GA adds a new section to KRS Chapter 237 that would allow the Department of Kentucky State Police to issue provisional licenses to carry concealed firearms or other deadly weapons to persons who are 18 years of age but younger than 21 years of age.

The provisional license is to be easily distinguishable from a standard license. No less than 90 days before the expiration of the provisional license, the Department of Kentucky State Police must mail a notice of expiration and an application to switch from a provisional license to a standard license.

HB 312 amends KRS 237.109 to lower the age requirement for carrying a concealed and deadly weapon from 21 to 18, and KRS 237.110 to conform.

The fiscal impact of HB 312/GA to local government is indeterminable, but it could be a minimal cost savings. By increasing the pool of possible people who can obtain a permit to conceal carry (i.e., including 18-, 19-, and 20-year-olds), the provisions could increase sheriffs' revenue from money retained in the application process. Though there

will be minimal administration costs associated with keeping track of upcoming provisional license expirations and sending a notice of expiration and application to switch to a standard license.

Also, the provisions of this legislation could theoretically decrease the number of people who are convicted of carrying a concealed deadly weapon. Under KRS 527.020, carrying a concealed weapon is a Class A misdemeanor, unless the defendant has been previously convicted of a felony in which a deadly weapon was possessed, used, or displayed, in which case it is a Class D felony.

Class A misdemeanor: 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.

Class D felony: 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; Kentucky Department of Corrections

Preparer: TJ **Reviewer:** JR (MDA) **Date:** 1/29/26