CORRECTIONS IMPACT STATEMENT

SESSION: 26RS BILL #: HB 315 Introduced BR #: 1165

BILL SPONSOR(S): Rep. G. Brown Jr., B. Chester-Burton AMENDMENT SPONSOR(S):

TITLE: AN ACT relating to firearms.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION: Amend KRS 527.010 to define "assault weapon," "bump stock," and "machine gun"; create a new section of KRS Chapter 527 to establish the offense of possession of an assault weapon as a Class D felony; provide exceptions; create a new section of KRS Chapter 527 to establish the offense of possession of a machine gun; provide exceptions; create a new section of KRS Chapter 237 to allow a person who lawfully owns an assault weapon before the effective date of the Act to apply to the commissioner of the Department of Kentucky State Police for a certificate of possession; amend KRS 237.104 to conform.

AMENDMENT:

This ☒ bill ☐ amendment ☐ committee substitute is expected to:

☒ **Have the following Corrections impact**	☐ **Have no Corrections impact.**
☒Creates new crime(s)	☐Repeals existing crime(s)
☐Increases penalty for existing crime(s)	☐Decreases penalty for existing crime(s)
☐Increases incarceration	☐Decreases incarceration.
☐Reduces inmate/offender services	☐Increases inmate/offender services.
☐Increases staff time or positions	☐Reduces staff time or positions.
☐Changes elements of the offense for existing crime(s)	
☐Otherwise impacts incarceration (Explain):	

STATE IMPACT: Class A, B, & C felonies are based on an average daily prison rate of $116.41. Community Custody Class C and most Class D felons are housed in one of seventy-four (74) full-service or regional jails for up to five (5) years. Department of Corrections cost to incarcerate a felony inmate in jail is $46.51 per day, which includes $35.34 per diem, medical costs, and central office administrative costs (substance abuse treatment not included).*

Projected Impact: ☐ NONE ☒ MINIMAL to MODERATE (< $1 million) ☐ SIGNIFICANT (> $1 million)

The legislation would likely result in a minimal increase in operational costs at the state level by creating a new Class D and Class C Felony.

Class D felons are housed in a county jail, and DOC pays counties a per diem for housing those inmates. A Class D Felony sentence is 1 to 5 years.

- One (1) Class D Felon costs KY $16,975.64 to $84,878.20
- Ten (10) Class D Felons cost KY $169,756.40 to $848,781.99
- One hundred (100) Class D Felons cost KY $1,697,563.98 to $8,487,819.88

The majority of Class C felons serve their time in a prison, although some Class C felons serve their time in a jail on community custody, during which time DOC would pay county jails a per diem rate for housing those inmates. The below calculations assume time is served in a prison.

A Class C Felony sentence is 5 to 10 years.

- One (1) Class C Felon costs KY $212,440.64 to $424,881.28
- Ten (10) Class C Felons cost KY $2,124,406.41 to $4,248,812.82
- One hundred (100) Class C Felons cost KY $21,244,064.09 to $42,488,128.18

Cost to Incarcerate can be found on corrections.ky.gov/public-information.

LOCAL IMPACT: Local governments are responsible for the cost of incarcerating individuals charged with Class A or B misdemeanors and felony defendants until the disposition of the case. The estimated impact will be based on the $46.51 cost to incarcerate for the Department of Corrections, including $35.34 per diem and medical that DOC pays jails to house felony offenders. This cost to incarcerate may not be the actual housing cost for the jail.*

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PROJECTED IMPACT FROM AMENDMENTS: ☐ NONE ☐ MINIMAL to MODERATE (< $1 million) ☐ SIGNIFICANT (> $1 million)

**All projections are based on the daily rate x 365 days x number of years. The cost to incarcerate as calculated by the Department is shown here as rounded to the hundredths. Offenders may have multiple offenses or be incarcerated on other charges unless otherwise noted. Unless otherwise noted, numbers will include inchoate offenses at the underlying offense level.*

The following offices contributed to this Corrections Impact Statement:

☒ Dept. of Corrections ☐ Dept. of Kentucky State Police ☐ Administrative Office of the Courts ☐ Parole Board ☐ Other

NOTE: *Consideration should be given to the cumulative impact of all bills that increase the felon population, lengthen the term of incarceration, or impose new obligations on state or local governments.*

APPROVED BY: Cookie Crews

Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Corrections

1/30/2026

Date