Local Government Mandate Statement
Kentucky Legislative Research Commission
Session

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #:	1791	**Bill #:**	HB 541/HCS 1
Document ID #:	8227	**Sponsor:**	Rep. John C. Blanton
Bill Title:	AN ACT relating to peace officers		

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

Office(s) Impacted: Law Enforcement

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

Section 2 amends KRS 15.382 to require that prior to being hired, any person seeking to become qualified as a peace officer must meet minimum requirements.

Section 5 amends KRS 15.405 to require that agencies must request background information and documents prior to making a conditional offer of employment to a potential peace officer.

Section 6 amends KRS 15.992 to stipulate agencies will be fined between $25-$1,000 for knowingly violating any provisions of this act.

The fiscal impact of HB 541/HCS 1 is indeterminable but expected to be negative. There are costs associated with requesting background documents for employment and agencies will be fined if they do not request this information prior to giving a conditional offer of employment.

According to the Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training (DOCJT), the cost for pre-employment screening of prospective law enforcement officers ranges between $400 and $500. Reimbursement is sought from the requesting agency of $181 with the balance covered by Kentucky Law Enforcement Council (KLEC). The cost of law enforcement basic training is borne entirely by DOCJT, whose primary funding source is Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund (KLEFPF). Law enforcement agencies do not pay for any costs of basic training; however, they pay the cadet's salary throughout their training. The Law Enforcement Basic Training Academy takes 20 weeks to complete the 824.5-hour curriculum. It is likely the agency will have increased salary costs due to overtime for existing officers to cover vacancies until the newly trained peace officer can report for duty.

Data Source(s): LRS staff; Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training

Preparer: TJ **Reviewer:** JR (MDA) **Date:** 3/11/26