

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

Part I: Measure Information

Bill Request #:	59	Bill #:	HB 611/GA
Document ID #:	7881	Sponsor:	Rep. Stephanie Dietz
Bill Title:	AN ACT relating to domestic relations.		

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

Office(s) Impacted: Local law enforcement, local jailers

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 1 of HB 611/GA creates a new section of KRS Chapter 508 to provide that a judgment of conviction for assault in the first degree or assault in the second degree or a felony criminal attempt, conspiracy, facilitation, or solicitation to commit assault in the first degree or assault in the second degree shall operate as an application for an order of protection under KRS Chapter 403 or as an interpersonal protective order under KRS Chapter 456, if the relationship between the defendant and the victim meets the definition of a family member or member of an unmarried couple or dating relationship.

The fiscal impact of HB 611/GA on local governments is expected to be minimal.

For a similar bill from 2015 (HB 8), the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police (KACP) stated that the measure would have minimal impact on costs of local law enforcement, since local law enforcement generally respond to all acts of violence anyway, and the bill would provide an additional tool to law enforcement. While an expansion of the right to petition for a protective order to additional populations of victims may result in increased calls to law enforcement and some additional time and

resources expended, this potential increase in the number of cases may be offset by law enforcement's ability to direct individuals to resolve their disputes by seeking a protective order rather than resorting to criminal sanctions and incarceration.

It is not possible to quantify the number of additional protective orders that would be issued as a result of HB 611 GA. However, increased issuance could mean increased violations. Violation of a protective order would be a contempt of court or a Class A misdemeanor. A person held in contempt usually serves a brief jail sentence while a person convicted of a Class A misdemeanor may be incarcerated up to one year. Local jails are responsible for costs of incarceration of those held in contempt and misdemeanants, both those convicted and those charged who can't make bail.

A person that has been convicted of two (2) or more previous violations of orders of protection under KRS 456.180, KRS 403.763(4)(a), 508.155, or 510.037 within the last five (5) years, would be assessed a Class D felony if the third or subsequent violation involves:

- The use or attempted use of physical force; or
- The threat of physical harm.

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 the majority of 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, Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police, Kentucky Department of Corrections

Preparer: BW **Reviewer:** TJ (MDA) **Date:** 3/9/26