

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

Part I: Measure Information

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|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Bill Request #: | 1515 | Bill #: | SB 304 |
| Document ID #: | 2503 | Sponsor: | Sen. Gerald A. Neal |
| Bill Title: | AN ACT relating to firearms | | |

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

Office(s) Impacted: Law Enforcement, 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

Section 1 requires any person who owns or is a custodian of a firearm must store the firearm in an appropriate safe storage depository or use a gun-locking device.

Section 2 states that owners or custodians must also report loss or theft of firearms within 24 hours of discovery. The law enforcement agency that receives a report of a lost or stolen firearm is required to submit a report of the incident to the National Crime Information database.

Section 3 states that any person who fails to store a firearm in a safe storage depository or fails to report loss or theft is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

The fiscal impact of SB 304 is indeterminable but expected to be negative. There is no way of anticipating potential violations, but there will be costs associated with the investigation of violations, completing of additional incident reports to the National Crime Information database, and the incarceration of offenders.

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.

Data Source(s): Kentucky Department of Corrections

Preparer: TJ **Reviewer:** BW (MDA) **Date:** 1/8/26