

**Department of Planning and Budget**  
**2004 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number** HB170

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
<b>Second House</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron** Wright

**3. Committee** Courts of Justice

**4. Title** Forging, uttering, etc., store coupons.

**5. Summary/Purpose:** Provides that any person who forges a discount coupon that entitles the holder to a discount or rebate on merchandise or services, to the prejudice of another's right, or utters, or attempts to employ as true, a forged coupon, knowing it to be forged, is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are:** PRELIMINARY; See Item 8 below.

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** No.

**8. Fiscal implications:** Anyone convicted of a Class 1 misdemeanor is subject to a sentence of up to 12 months in jail. There is not enough information available to reliably estimate how many additional inmates in jail could result from this proposal. Any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth pays the localities \$8.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds most of the jails' operating costs, e.g. correctional officers. The state's share of these costs on a per prisoner, per day basis varies from locality to locality. However, according to the Compensation Board, the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$29.80 per inmate, per day in FY 2002.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Compensation Board, local and regional jails.

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** No.

**11. Other comments:** None.

**Date:** 01/19/04 / jgc

**Document:** G:\2004 session\EFIS -- Bill Impact Statements\Posted\HB170.DOC

cc: Secretary of Administration