Department of Planning and Budget 2007 Fiscal Impact Statement

Bill Number HB2162
House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House
Patron Wright
Committee Courts of Justice
Title How accessories after the fact punished; certain exceptions.
Summary/Purpose: Provides that in the case of every felony, every accessory after the fact is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Currently certain blood relatives, etc., of the principal are not considered accessories. The provision also added that a violation of this section is a separate and distinct offense and is not a lesser-included offense of any other crime.
Fiscal Impact Estimates are: <u>PRELIMINARY</u> ; See item 8.
Budget amendment necessary: No.
Fiscal implications: Anyone convicted of a Class 1 misdemeanor is subject to a sentence of up to 12 months in jail. Therefore, this proposal could result in an increase in the number of persons sentenced to 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's most recent Jail Cost Report (FY 2005), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$28.35 per inmate, per day in FY 2005.
Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Local and regional jails, Compensation Board, state and local law enforcement agencies.
. Technical amendment necessary: No.
. Other comments: None.
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Date: 01/10/07 / ltc

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cc: Secretary of Public Safety Secretary of Administration