

Department of Planning and Budget

2009 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB 2178

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☒ Substitute ☒ Engrossed
Second House ☒ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron **Scott, E.T.**

3. Committee **Senate Courts of Justice**

4. Title **Possession of ammunition by convicted felon**

5. Summary/Purpose:

Under current law, it is a Class 6 felony for a convicted felon to possess or transport any firearm. The proposed legislation would make it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any felon to possess or transport ammunition for a firearm.

6. Fiscal Impact estimate: Indeterminate. See Item 8.

7. Budget amendment necessary: None.

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's most recent Jail Cost Report (November 2008), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$28.77 per inmate, per day in FY 2007.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:

Local and regional jails

10. Technical amendment necessary: None.

11. Other comments: None.

Date: {2/24/2009} rah

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