

**Department of Planning and Budget
2014 Fiscal Impact Statement**

1. Bill Number: HB 420

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

2. Patron: Minchew

3. Committee: Senate Courts of Justice

4. Title: Misuse of public assets

5. Summary:

The proposed legislation would authorize any county, city, town or other political subdivision to adopt a local ordinance making it a Class 1 misdemeanor for any non-full-time officer, agent, employee, or elected official, without lawful authorization, to use, or permit the use of, public assets for private or personal purposes unrelated to the duties and office of the officer, agent, employee, or elected official if the value of such use exceeded \$1,000 in any 12-month period.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Item 8 below.

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 presently pays the localities \$4.00 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 2013), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$30.06 per inmate, per day in FY 2012.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:

Counties, cities, and towns
Other political subdivisions
Local and regional jails

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 2/14/2014

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