

Department of Planning and Budget

2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1031ER

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

2. Patron: Chase

3. Committee: Passed both houses.

4. Title: False information and hoax criminal activities; penalty.

5. Summary: The bill makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor to knowingly, with the intent to mislead a law-enforcement agency, cause another to give a false report to any law-enforcement official by publicly simulating a felony, as specified in existing law.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final (see Item 8 below).

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill expands an existing Class 1 misdemeanor to include knowingly, with the intent to mislead a law-enforcement agency, cause another to give a false report to any law-enforcement official by publicly simulating a felony, as specified in existing law. Anyone convicted of a Class 1 misdemeanor is subject to a sentence of up to 12 months in jail. Ultimately, the presiding judge will decide if there is to be any time served in jail; however, 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 a large portion of the jails' operating costs, e.g. correctional officers. The state's share of these costs varies from locality to locality. According to the Compensation Board's most recent Jail Cost Report (November 2018), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$33.83 per inmate, per day in FY 2017.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Local jails; Local law enforcement; Courts.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None