# Department of Planning and Budget
## 2010 Fiscal Impact Statement

1.  **Bill Number:**  HB236

    **House of Origin**   X   Introduced   ___   Substitute   ___   Engrossed

    **Second House**   ___   In Committee   ___   Substitute   ___   Enrolled

2.  **Patron:**   Janis

3.  **Committee:**  Militia, Police and Public Safety

4.  **Title:**   **Shooting firearms in certain areas.**

5.  **Summary:**  Makes it a Class 1 misdemeanor to discharge a firearm towards a subdivision within the range of the firearm, or to discharge a firearm towards any person or structure, when no barrier exists that would prevent the projectile from striking a person or animal or structure. With these changes, a locality would no longer be able to prohibit hunting generally within a half-mile radius of a subdivision, but would still be able to prohibit hunting within a subdivision.

6.  **Fiscal Impact Estimates:**  Preliminary; see Item 8 below.

7.  **Budget Amendment Necessary:**  No.

8.  **Fiscal Implications:**   Although insufficient data exists to determine the fiscal impact due to the legislation at this time, the legislation could result in an increase in the jail population since a Class 1 misdemeanor can result in a sentence of up to 12 months in jail (and $2,500 fine).  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 FY2008 Jail Cost Report (November 1, 2009), the estimated total state support for local and regional jails averaged $32.66 per state inmate, per day in FY 2008.

9.  **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:**  State and local law enforcement agencies, local and regional jails.

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:**  No.

11. **Other Comments:**  None.


**Date:**  1/18/2010   dpb/John Crooks
**Document:**  G:\2010\FIS\Assigned\DSP\HB236.DOC