

Department of Planning and Budget
2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 1246

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/>	In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enrolled

2. Patron: Wilt

3. Committee: House Courts of Justice

4. Title: Solicitation by bail bondsmen

5. Summary:

Among the restrictions on solicitation of business by bail bondsmen is a prohibition of directly initiating contact with any person in any court, jail, lock-up, or surrounding government property. The penalty for violation of this prohibition is a fine of up to \$2,500, levied by the Criminal Justice Services Board.

The proposed legislation would make it a Class 1 misdemeanor for a bail bondsman to engage in such conduct.

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. 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 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 2015), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$32.24 per inmate, per day in FY 2014.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:

Department of Criminal Justice Services
Compensation Board
Local and regional jails

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 1/25/2016

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