

## Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB247

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:** Levine

**3. Committee:** Transportation

**4. Title:** Infliction of injury on pedestrians and wheel chair users; penalties.

**5. Summary:** Increases from a traffic infraction to a Class 2 misdemeanor the penalty for failure to obey traffic lights or stop for pedestrians when such failure results in the death or serious bodily injury of a pedestrian or wheel chair user.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

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

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The implementation of this bill could result in more individuals being convicted of a Class 2 misdemeanor.

Anyone convicted of a Class 2 misdemeanor is subject to a sentence of up to six months in jail. There is not enough information available to reliably estimate the increase in jail population as a result of this proposal. However, any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth currently 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 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 2019), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$34.07 per inmate, per day in FY 2018.

Anyone convicted of a Class 2 misdemeanor is also subject to a fine of up to \$1,000. All revenue collected from such fines is deposited into the Literary Fund. However, it is not possible to estimate either the number of convictions that may result or the amount of each fine that may be assessed under this legislation. Therefore, the impact of this bill cannot be determined.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Local and regional jails

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.