

Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

PUBLISHED: 1/22/2026 2:09 PM

ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB926

Patron: Lopez

Bill Title: Prohibition on outdoor shooting of firearm on property without reasonable care; penalty.

Bill Summary: Permits localities to adopt an ordinance prohibiting outdoor shooting of a firearm unless the discharge of such firearm is conducted (i) on land of at least five acres and (ii) with reasonable care, described in the bill, to prevent a projectile from crossing the bounds of the land. The bill permits such an ordinance to create a rebuttable presumption that the discharge of firearms across or over the bounds of a property without written permission of that property owner was without reasonable care. The bill requires that a violation of such an ordinance not exceed a Class 1 misdemeanor.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: None

Explanation: See below

Fiscal Summary:

The bill may have an indeterminate fiscal impact to localities. There is not enough information available to reliably estimate the increase in jail population or revenue generated from fines as a result of this proposal that potentially creates additional Class 1 misdemeanors.

Fiscal Analysis:

This proposal would allow localities to create ordinances to prohibit outdoor shooting of a firearm under certain circumstances. These ordinances would not be able to exceed a Class 1 misdemeanor. It is unknown how many localities would adopt such ordinances or how many would be Class 1 misdemeanors. Anyone convicted of a Class 1 misdemeanor is subject to a sentence of up to 12 months in jail and a fine of not more than \$2,500, either or both.

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 localities \$5.00 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 2025), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$58.25 per inmate, per day in FY 2024

Proceeds of all fines and penalties collected for offenses committed against the Commonwealth are paid into the state treasury to the credit of the Literary Fund.

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Other: None