

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB158H1

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

2. Patron: McClure

3. Committee: Public Safety

4. Title: Firearm locking device required for sale or transfer of firearm.

5. Summary: This proposal makes it a Class 3 misdemeanor for any licensed manufacturer, licensed importer, or licensed dealer to sell, deliver, or transfer any firearm to any person other than a licensed manufacturer, licensed importer, or licensed dealer unless the transferee is provided with a locking device for that firearm and the firearm is accompanied by a warning, in conspicuous and legible type in capital letters printed on a separate sheet of paper included within the packaging enclosing the firearm, that firearms should be locked and kept away from children and that there may be civil and criminal liability for failing to do so. The bill provides exceptions for law-enforcement and governmental agencies.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of State Police (VSP) does not anticipate a fiscal impact as a result of this proposed legislation on the agency.

The proposed legislation also creates new Class 3 misdemeanor. A Class 3 misdemeanor is punishable by a fine of up to \$500. These offenses carry no jail time. 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: Courts, Commonwealth's Attorneys, and state and local law enforcement agencies.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.