

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 5806-02  
Bill No.: HCS for HB 16  
Subject: Firearms; Children and Minors; Crimes and Punishment; Business and Commerce  
Type: Original  
Date: August 18, 2020

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Bill Summary: This proposal changes the offense of unlawful transfer of weapons to include a class E felony for knowingly transferring a firearm to a minor.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
General Revenue	(Less than \$105,322)	(Less than \$113,027)	(Less than \$113,288)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>(Less than \$105,322)</b>	<b>(Less than \$113,027)</b>	<b>(Less than \$113,288)</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 7 pages.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**FISCAL ANALYSIS**

**ASSUMPTION**

**§571.060 - Unlawful transfer of weapons**

Officials from the **Department of Corrections (DOC)** state this proposal creates a new class E felony if a person, knowingly sells, leases, lends, gives away, or delivers a firearm to a person under eighteen years of age without the consent of the recipient's custodial parent or guardian.

For each new nonviolent class E felony, the department estimates one person will be sentenced to prison and two to probation. The average sentence for a nonviolent class E felony offense is 3.4 years, of which 2.1 years will be served in prison with 1.4 years to first release. The remaining 1.3 years will be on parole. Probation sentences will be 3 years.

The cumulative impact on the Department is estimated to be two additional offenders in prison and seven on field supervision by FY2023.

	# to prison	Cost per year	Total Costs for <b>prison</b>	# to probation & parole	Cost per year	Total cost for <b>probation and parole</b>	Grand Total - Prison and Probation (includes a 2% inflation)
Year 1	1	(\$6,386)	(\$5,322)	2	absorbed	\$0	(\$5,322)
Year 2	2	(\$6,386)	(\$13,027)	4	absorbed	\$0	(\$13,027)
Year 3	2	(\$6,386)	(\$13,288)	7	absorbed	\$0	(\$13,288)
Year 4	2	(\$6,386)	(\$13,554)	7	absorbed	\$0	(\$13,554)
Year 5	2	(\$6,386)	(\$13,825)	7	absorbed	\$0	(\$13,825)
Year 6	2	(\$6,386)	(\$14,101)	7	absorbed	\$0	(\$14,101)
Year 7	2	(\$6,386)	(\$14,383)	7	absorbed	\$0	(\$14,383)
Year 8	2	(\$6,386)	(\$14,671)	7	absorbed	\$0	(\$14,671)
Year 9	2	(\$6,386)	(\$14,964)	7	absorbed	\$0	(\$14,964)
Year 10	2	(\$6,386)	(\$15,264)	7	absorbed	\$0	(\$15,264)

If this impact statement has changed from statements submitted in previous years, it is because the DOC has changed the way probation and parole daily costs are calculated to more accurately reflect the way the Division of Probation and Parole is staffed across the entire state.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

In December 2019, the DOC reevaluated the calculation used for computing the Probation and Parole average daily cost of supervision and revised the cost calculation to be used for 2020 fiscal notes. For the purposes of fiscal note calculations, the DOC averaged district caseloads across the state and came up with an average caseload of 51 offender cases per officer. The new calculation assumes that an increase/decrease of 51 cases would result in a change in costs/cost avoidance equal to the cost of one FTE staff person. Increases/decreases smaller than 51 offenders are assumed to be absorbable.

In instances where the proposed legislation would only affect a specific caseload, such as sex offenders, the DOC will use the average caseload figure for that specific type of offender to calculate cost increases/decreases. For instances where the proposed legislation affects a less specific caseload, DOC projects the impact based on prior year(s) actual data for DOC's 44 probation and parole districts.

The DOC cost of incarceration is \$17.496 per day or an annual cost of \$6,386 per offender. The DOC cost of probation or parole is determined by the number of P&P Officer II positions that would be needed to cover the new caseload.

**Oversight** does not have any information contrary to that provided by DOC. Therefore, Oversight will reflect DOC's impact for fiscal note purposes.

Officials from the **State Public Defender's Office (SPD)** state the amendments would increase the number of cases eligible for representation by the SPD. It is difficult, if not impossible, to tell how many additional cases would be issued throughout the state as a result of these changes. If the number of cases substantially increased the caseload for SPD, additional staff would be necessary to represent indigent defendants in those cases.

**Oversight** notes over the last three fiscal years, the SPD has lapsed a total of \$153 of General Revenue appropriations (\$2 out of \$28.0 million in FY 2017; \$150 out of \$42.5 million in FY 2018; and \$1 out of \$46.0 million in FY 2019). Therefore, Oversight assumes the SPD is at maximum capacity, and the increase in workload resulting from this bill may not be absorbed with SPD's current resources.

Adding one additional Assistant Public Defender 1 (APD) with a starting salary of \$47,000, will cost approximately \$74,500 per year in personal service and fringe benefit costs. One additional APD II (\$52,000 per year; eligible for consideration after 1 year of successful performance at APD I) will cost the state approximately \$81,000 per year in personal service and fringe benefit costs. When expense and equipment costs such as travel, training, furniture, equipment and

ASSUMPTION (continued)

supplies are included, Oversight assumes the cost for a new APD could approach \$100,000 per year.

**Oversight** assumes the SPD may not absorb the additional caseload that may result from this proposal within their existing resources and, therefore, will reflect a potential additional cost of (Less than \$100,000) per year to the General Revenue Fund.

Officials from the **Missouri Office of Prosecution Services (MOPS)** assume the proposal will have no measurable fiscal impact on MOPS.

Oversight notes the **Office of the Attorney General**, the **Department of Natural Resources**, the **Department of Public Safety - (Missouri State Highway Patrol and Missouri National Guard)**, the **Department of Social Services**, the **Department of Conservation**, the **Office of the State Courts Administrator**, and the **St. Louis County Department of Justice Services** have each stated the proposal would not have a direct fiscal impact on their respective organizations.

In response to a previous version, Oversight notes the **St. Louis County Police Department** stated the proposal would not have a direct fiscal impact on their organization.

**Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

**Oversight** only reflects the responses that we have received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other police and sheriff's departments were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. A general listing of political subdivisions included in our database is available upon request.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
<b>GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
<u>Costs</u> - DOC (§571.060) Increased incarceration costs	(\$5,322)	(\$13,027)	(\$13,288)
<u>Costs</u> - SPD (§571.060) Salaries, fringe benefits, and equipment and expense	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>	<u>(Less than \$100,000)</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>	<b><u>(Less than \$105,322)</u></b>	<b><u>(Less than \$113,027)</u></b>	<b><u>(Less than \$113,288)</u></b>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Currently, selling, leasing, lending, giving, or delivering a firearm to a person not legally allowed to possess one is prohibited. This bill states that a person commits the offense of unlawful transfer of weapons if they knowingly sell, lease, lend, give away, or deliver a firearm to a person under 18 years of age for the purpose of avoiding, interfering with, or preventing a lawful felony arrest, detention, or investigation of any alleged offense.

This bill also clarifies existing language on the transfer of other items including blackjacks, and specifies that exceptions exist for peace officers and members of the National Guard.

This bill has an emergency clause.

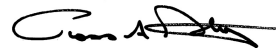
This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Attorney General's Office  
Department of Natural Resources  
Department of Corrections  
Department of Public Safety  
Department of Social Services  
Department of Conservation  
Missouri Office of Prosecution Services  
Office of State Courts Administrator  
State Public Defender's Office  
St. Louis County Department of Justice Services  
St. Louis County Police Department



Julie Morff  
Director  
August 18, 2020



Ross Strobe  
Assistant Director  
August 18, 2020