

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-7219

AN ACT CONCERNING GHOST GUNS.

As Amended by House "A" (LCO 8074)

House Calendar No.: 312

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 20 \$	FY 21 \$
Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection	GF - Cost	Less than 10,000	Less than 10,000
Judicial Dept. (Probation); Correction, Dept.	GF - Potential Cost	Minimal	Minimal
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

There is a cost expected to be less than \$10,000 to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) resulting from the bill as amended, which requires DESPP develop and maintain a system for providing serial numbers for ghost guns. The agency would likely have to modify an existing agreement with the third party vendor that currently provides services related to firearm serial numbers, resulting in a minimal cost.

The bill as amended also expands the felony of alteration of a firearm and results in a potential cost from incarceration or potential revenue gain from fines. To the extent that violators are prosecuted, the bill as amended results in a potential cost to the Department of Correction for incarceration or Judicial Department for probation supervision. As of February 2019, there are 10 offenders incarcerated

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for the current offense and 16 on probation. On average, the marginal cost to the state for incarcerating an offender for the year is \$1,900¹ while the average marginal cost for supervision in the community is less than \$700² each year.

“House A” made various changes related to enforcement of violations in the underlying bill. This has no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

¹ Inmate marginal cost is based on increased consumables (e.g. food, clothing, water, sewage, living supplies, etc.) This does not include a change in staffing costs or utility expenses because these would only be realized if a unit or facility opened.

² Probation marginal cost is based on services provided by private providers and only includes costs that increase with each additional participant. This does not include a cost for additional supervision by a probation officer unless a new offense is anticipated to result in enough additional offenders to require additional probation officers.