TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 2304 - SB 2515

March 14, 2024

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (015845): Requires each law enforcement agency, except for the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) to report monthly to the Department of Safety (DOS) each interaction that the agency had with illegal aliens over the previous month. Requires the report to include the date of the interaction, the number of illegal aliens encountered, and a description and copies of any identification documents found in the alien's possession.

Requires DOS to use the information to develop a report detailing illegal alien presence and activity in Tennessee. Requires DOS to regularly share its reports with the TBI. Requires DOS to provide a report that must include an assessment of the population of illegal aliens, associated criminal enterprises, and a threat analysis to the General Assembly by December 1 each year or at the request of the Speakers of the Senate or the House of Representatives. Requires DOS to share its reports with local law enforcement agencies to ensure an integrated approach to addressing issues with illegal aliens and any unlawful activities in which they are engaged.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The DOS states that it can meet all of the legislation's requirements by utilizing existing resources; any fiscal impact to the DOS is estimated to be not significant.
- Based on additional information provided by the TBI, the bureau can receive the reports from the DOS within existing resources.
- Law enforcement agencies do not currently keep any records of interactions with members of the public. It is unclear how a law enforcement officer is to know or determine the immigration status of any given individual with whom the officer interacts. Local law enforcement officers currently document reports of crimes and investigative activity.
- Based on information provided by the Tennessee Sheriffs Association, the only practical current method of determining a person's immigration status is to fingerprint the individual and send it to United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Law enforcement officers do not have real time access to ICE databases.

- Given these challenges, it is assumed that the legislation will require such reporting on interactions with individuals that are determined to be illegal aliens through normal existing processes, namely in the process of investigating crimes.
- Such reporting will require additional time and workload on law enforcement agencies, but it is assumed that they can accommodate the legislation's requirements to the extent they are able within existing resources. Any fiscal impact to law enforcement agencies is therefore estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Kiista Lee Caroner

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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