

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6039**

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 29

**NOTE PREPARED:** Oct 5, 2004

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** False Reporting.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Alting

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  **GENERAL**  
 **DEDICATED**  
 **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** The bill makes the crime of false reporting the presence of explosives, product tampering, or weapons of mass destruction a Class C felony instead of a Class D felony.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2005.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** State expenditures would increase if an offender is incarcerated in a state prison for a longer period of time. On average, between 1999 and 2003, there were three people a year committed to Department of Correction (DOC) facilities for false reporting.

A Class D felony is punishable by a prison term ranging between six months to three years or reduction to Class A misdemeanor, depending upon mitigating and aggravating circumstances. A Class C felony is punishable by a prison term ranging from two to eight years. The average expenditure to house an adult offender was \$21,514 in FY 2004, ranging from a low of \$16,645 to a high of \$49,281. (This does not include the cost of new construction.) If offenders can be housed in existing facilities with no additional staff, the average cost for medical care, food, and clothing is approximately \$1,825 annually, or \$5 daily, per prisoner. The average length of stay in DOC facilities for all Class C felony offenders is approximately two years.

**Explanation of State Revenues:** No change would likely occur in state revenue as a result of this bill since criminal fines and court fees are the same for either Class D or C felonies.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** No additional revenues would be expected since the court fees for Class D and Class C are both \$120.

**State Agencies Affected:** Department of Correction.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

**Information Sources:** Indiana Sheriffs' Association; Department of Correction.

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