

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6327**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1609

**NOTE PREPARED:** Feb 19, 2009

**BILL AMENDED:** Feb 19, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Battery on a Utility Worker or Sports Official.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Soliday

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - 1<sup>st</sup> House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  GENERAL  
 DEDICATED  
 FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) The bill makes battery on a: (1) sports official at a sports contest; or (2) utility worker engaged in the execution of the utility worker's official duty; a Class D felony instead of a Class B misdemeanor if it results in bodily injury to the sports official or utility worker.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2009.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** State expenditures could increase if an offender is incarcerated in a state prison rather than in a local jail. A Class D felony is punishable by a prison term ranging between six months to three years or reduction to Class A misdemeanor. The period of incarceration will depend upon mitigating and aggravating circumstances. The average expenditure to house an adult offender was \$20,287 in FY 2008. (This does not include the cost of new construction.) If offenders can be housed in existing facilities with no additional staff, the marginal cost per offender for medical care, food, and clothing is approximately \$1,825 annually, or \$5 daily. The estimated average cost of housing a juvenile in a state juvenile facility was \$69,223. The average length of stay in Department of Correction facilities for all Class D felony offenders is approximately ten months.

**Explanation of State Revenues:** More revenue to the Common School Fund could be collected if a larger criminal fine is assessed by the sentencing court. The maximum fine for a Class B misdemeanor is \$1,000, while the maximum fine for a Class D felony is \$10,000. Court fees for both misdemeanors and felonies are \$120.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** If an offender is sentenced to state prison rather than to a county jail, the costs to the county may be reduced. The maximum term of imprisonment for a Class B misdemeanor is

up to 180 days. The average daily cost to incarcerate a prisoner in a county jail is roughly \$44.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** Court fees for both misdemeanors and felonies are \$120.

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

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

**Information Sources:** Indiana Sheriffs' Association.

**Fiscal Analyst:** Karen Firestone, 317-234-2106.