



DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

270 Washington St., S.W., Suite 1-156
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-8400

Greg S. Griffin
STATE AUDITOR
(404) 656-2174

March 3, 2021

Honorable James Burchett
Chairman, House Judicial Non-Civil
131-B State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note
House Bill 255 (LC 28 0233)

Dear Chairman Burchett:

The bill would require the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) to operate a statewide sexual assault kit tracking system. It would track the status of sexual assault kits, including those in which the victim chooses not to report the alleged crime to law enforcement. The bill also requires law enforcement agencies that investigate certain crimes to enter information about the alleged perpetrator and crime into the federal Violent Criminal Apprehension Program database. Finally, the bill would require each judicial circuit protocol committee to annually certify annual compliance with CJCC.

CJCC indicated that implementation of the tracking system has already begun with the use of federal grant funding. Those funds will expire in FY 2022. As a result, in FY 2023 CJCC will need \$56,169 in state funding to cover a portion of the salary and benefits for two positions to oversee operations of the system. Beginning in FY 2027, costs are expected to increase to approximately \$92,169 as additional funds are needed for license fees (\$18,000) and support and maintenance (\$18,000).

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI), the state law enforcement agency that investigates the crimes indicated in the bill, did not expect any significant costs associated with the bill. It would be able to meet its obligations with existing resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Greg S. Griffin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly Farr". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Kelly Farr, Director
Office of Planning and Budget

GSG/KF/ab