TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 837 – HB 1305

April 5, 2011

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (004953): Deletes the original bill. Requires a Tennessee resident who is a United States citizen and intends to perform the functions of a bounty hunter as defined in Tenn. Code Ann. § 40-11-318(a) to undergo and pay for a criminal background check at the sheriff's office of the county of the person's permanent residence. The criminal background check shall include fingerprint checks against state and federal criminal records maintained by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Requires the sheriff to maintain files on bounty hunters and authorizes the sheriff to charge a fee of not more than $200 for each background check performed pursuant to this bill in addition to the background check fees payable to the TBI, the FBI, and any designated vendor. Requires a bounty hunter from another state to provide proof to the local law enforcement agency in the county where the bounty hunter intends to work that he or she has completed an equivalent criminal history background check in the person's home state within the last year.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase Local Revenue - $60,000/One-Time/Permissive
Increase Local Expenditures - $60,000/One-Time/Permissive

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- According to the Tennessee Association of Professional Bail Agents, there are approximately 300 individuals statewide functioning as bounty hunters who would be subject to a criminal background check.
- The local sheriffs will charge a $200 fee resulting in an increase to local revenue of $60,000 ($200 x 300 bounty hunters).
- There will be a one-time increase in local expenditures of $60,000 ($200 x 300 bounty hunters) for the sheriffs to conduct the criminal background checks and store the files.

CERTIFICATION:

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

James W. White, Executive Director

/lsc