

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 640 - HB 921

March 30, 2017

SUMMARY OF BILL: Adds to reckless endangerment a class A misdemeanor offense for leaving a loaded, unsecured firearm in such a manner that it endangers the life or health of a child less than 14 years of age.

Adds to reckless endangerment a class B misdemeanor offense for knowingly authorizing a child less than 12 years of age to use a firearm without the supervision of an adult.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

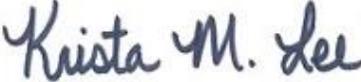
Assumptions:

- Tennessee Code Annotated § 39-13-103 prohibits any person from recklessly engaging in conduct that places or may place another person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury.
- Reckless endangerment is a class A misdemeanor unless committed with a deadly weapon (class E felony) or by discharging a firearm into a habitation (class C felony, unless the habitation was empty, class D felony).
- The proposed legislation adds two subsections to Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-13-103(b) that make reckless endangerment committed by leaving a loaded, unsecured firearm in such a manner that endangers the life or health of a child a class A misdemeanor and makes reckless endangerment by knowingly authorizing a child less than 12 years of age to use a firearm a class B misdemeanor.
- To constitute an offense, a person first has to commit reckless endangerment. Upon committing such an offense, then the provisions of the proposed legislation would determine the level of classification.
- Because reckless endangerment is a class A misdemeanor and the proposed legislation does not enhance the classification, it is assumed that the proposed legislation will not significantly impact current convictions or the time served, if any, for those convictions.

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CERTIFICATION:

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



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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