



FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 298

Committee: Public Safety and Homeland Security Sponsor: Senator Will Barfoot

Analyst: Peter Grogan

Date: 04/01/2026

Senate Bill 298 as passed the Senate would establish minimum law enforcement staffing levels for Class 3 municipalities which could increase the annual obligations of Class 3 municipalities, by an undetermined amount, beginning October 1, 2026 to: (1) meet the annual staffing requirements provided by this bill, until meeting full compliance by October 1, 2031; (2) reimburse the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) and any other state or local law enforcement agencies for costs incurred to provide supplemental law enforcement officers to Class 3 municipalities that fail to make the required improvements by October 1, 2031; and (3) report annually to ALEA on the annual improvements made and other data required by this bill.

This bill could reduce receipts of Class 3 municipalities by an undetermined amount dependent on any state revenues withheld pursuant to this bill for failure to make court-ordered restitution payments within the specified time frame provided pursuant to the provisions of this bill.

In addition, this bill could increase the administrative obligations of: (1) the Office of Attorney General, to petition the courts for restitution; (2) ALEA, to provide quarterly expenditure reports and to adopt rules implementing and administering the provisions of this bill; and (3) the Unified Judicial System for the Chief Justice to appoint a sitting or retired circuit court judge to preside over all proceedings as provided in this bill.

Further, this bill could increase the administrative obligations of the Alabama Comptroller to withhold distribution of certain revenues provided in this bill in a separate fund.

This bill would also provide for the Legislature, by separate supplemental appropriation, to use the monies in this fund to satisfy restitution payments.



The Governor's introduced Budget for FY27 includes \$3.0 million for the Alabama Metro Crime Suppression Unit.

Finally, this bill would have an estimated aggregate fiscal impact of greater than \$50,000 annually on affected local government entities and is subject to the provisions of Section 111.05 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022.