Proposed legislation creates the crime of discrimination based on vaccine status and imposes penalties. The discrimination of any person based on that person’s COVID-19 vaccination status. Penalties include a fine of no more than $1,000, imprisonment of not more than 6 months, or both.

Local law enforcement agencies will realize an indeterminable increase in expenditures associated with imprisonment at local jails. The cost increase will depend on the number of persons convicted, the minimum sentence an offender serves, and the cost per day for a local law enforcement agency to incarcerate an offender.

There is no direct material effect on the Department of Public Safety & Corrections - Corrections Services (DPS&C) expenditures as a result of the proposed legislation. The proposed legislation is a misdemeanor; therefore, these offenders are not sentenced to DPS&C.

There will be an indeterminable increase in local funds revenue as a result of potential fines if a person is convicted of this new crime. The maximum fine is $1,000 and the potential revenue will accrue to the local governmental entities.