

PRISON/JAIL POPULATION COST ESTIMATE STATEMENT
NINETY-SECOND SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY 2017

HOUSE BILL NO. 1035

**AN ACT TO REVISE AND PROVIDE CERTAIN PROCEDURES FOR FILING,
CERTIFYING, AND CHALLENGING PETITIONS.**

A prison/jail population cost estimate statement has been requested on HB1035 because the bill creates a new Class 2 misdemeanor violation for employing or compensating a person for circulating a petition for the organization of a political party based on the number of registered voters who sign the petition.

In order to analyze how this new penalty would affect the prison or jail populations, we looked at similar violations for compensating petition circulators based on the number of signers. A similar violation currently exists in §12-13-28 for compensating a petition circulator for an initiated measure, referred law, and proposed constitutional amendment based on the number of people who sign the petition, which is a Class 2 misdemeanor. Additionally, §12-4-52 establishes a Class 2 misdemeanor for employing or compensating a person to register voters based on the number of people that register to vote.

There have been no arrests or convictions under §12-13-28 or §12-4-52 from January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2016. Due to the absence of violations under these two existing statutes, it is the opinion of the LRC that this bill will have little to no impact on prison or jail costs.

Approved: Jason Hancock /s/

Date: 01/17/2017

Director, Legislative Research Council