

FISCAL NOTE

The Department of Corrections (DOC) states that the bill will result in an indeterminable expenditure increase due to an increase in the length of incarceration and probation. The bill increases sentences under W.S. §6-4-403(a)(ii) from a misdemeanor to a felony for a first conviction of knowingly or with criminal negligence cause, permit or contribute to the endangering of the child's life or health that results in sexual assault under W.S. 6-2-301(a)(v) or child abuse under W.S. 6-2-503. Longer sentences and supervision periods will impact corrections costs. However, it is not possible to accurately estimate how many inmates will be impacted by the bill as not all misdemeanor convictions can be accounted for within current DOC data.

The DOC states that there are approximately sixty (60) offenders who are being supervised in the community for a conviction under W.S. §6-4-403(a)(ii), of which thirty-six (36) were convicted of a misdemeanor and twenty-four (24) for a felony. There are no inmates currently incarcerated for a conviction under W.S. §6-4-403(a)(ii). Each year of incarceration currently costs the State approximately \$41,537 per inmate, per year, including medical costs. The cost for community supervision of an offender is approximately \$2,000 per year.

The fiscal impact to the judicial system is indeterminable due to an unknown number of cases.