

**SFA**

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Fiscal Agency

Lansing, Michigan 48909

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Senate Bill 56

Sponsor: Senator Richard D. Fessler

Committee: Judiciary

Date Completed: 4-20-89

SUMMARY OF SENATE BILL 56 as introduced 1-31-89:

The bill would amend the Michigan Penal Code to impose a mandatory sentence of life in prison without parole for an act of arson that caused the death of a person. A person who willfully and maliciously destroyed or damaged a building or other real property "by means of an explosive or incendiary device or by fire" thereby causing a death would be subject to that punishment. The sentence could not be suspended, and the person could not be eligible for probation or parole.

("Explosive or incendiary device" would mean dynamite, gunpowder, or other similarly explosive substance; a bomb, grenade, missile, or similar device designed to expand suddenly and release internal energy resulting in an explosion; or an incendiary bomb or grenade, fire bomb, or similar device designed to ignite.)

Proposed MCL 750.73a

Legislative Analyst: P. Affholter

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have an indeterminate impact on State and local units of government. Total costs under this bill would depend on the length of time the convicted individual would be in prison. This factor, in turn, would depend on the age of the individual at the time of conviction. Assuming the range of age of convicted individuals is between 18 and 70 years old, the costs to the State would be between \$161,400 and \$21,000 per individual. This estimate assumes an annual rate of inflation of 4% and does not include other imprisonment costs such as health and administrative expenses.

Fiscal Analyst: F. Sanchez

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