



**Senate Fiscal Agency**  
P. O. Box 30036  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536

BILL



ANALYSIS

**Telephone: (517) 373-5383**  
**Fax: (517) 373-1986**

Senate Bill 874 (Substitute S-1 as reported)  
Senate Bill 880 (as reported without amendment)  
Sponsor: Senator Rick Jones  
Committee: Judiciary

### **CONTENT**

Senate Bill 874 (S-1) would amend the Child Protection Law to do the following:

- Specify that a paid employee or a volunteer who was required to report suspected child abuse or child neglect, who had direct knowledge of the nature of the suspected child abuse or child neglect, and who willfully and knowingly failed to report would be guilty of a felony.
- For an employee who failed to report, prescribe a penalty that would be higher than the current penalty for a person who fails to report.
- For a volunteer who failed to report, prescribe a penalty that would be less than the penalty for an employee who failed to report.
- Prescribe an enhanced penalty for an employee or volunteer who failed to report an instance of suspected child abuse or child neglect a second or subsequent time.

Senate Bill 880 would amend the sentencing guidelines in the Code of Criminal Procedure to include the felonies proposed by Senate Bill 874 (S-1) as Class G offenses against a person, with the statutory maximums proposed by that bill.

The bills are tie-barred to each other.

MCL 722.633 (S.B. 784)  
777.15g (S.B. 880)

Legislative Analyst: Jeff Mann

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Senate Bill 874 (S-1) could have a negative fiscal impact on the State and local government. More felony arrests and convictions could increase demands on court systems, community supervision, jails, and correctional facilities. The average cost to State government for felony probation supervision is approximately \$3,024 per probationer per year. For any increase in prison intakes, in the short term, the marginal cost to State government is approximately \$3,764 per prisoner per year. Any associated increase in fine revenue increases funding to public libraries.

Senate Bill 880 would have no fiscal impact on local government and an indeterminate fiscal impact on the State, in light of the Michigan Supreme Court's July 2015 opinion in *People v. Lockridge*, in which the Court ruled that the sentencing guidelines are advisory for all cases. This means that the addition to the guidelines under the bill would not be compulsory for the sentencing judge. As penalties for felony convictions vary, the fiscal impact of any given felony conviction depends on judicial decisions.

Date Completed: 3-2-18

Fiscal Analyst: John Maxwell

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Bill Analysis @ [www.senate.michigan.gov/sfa](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/sfa)

This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.