

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6990**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1235

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 18, 2024

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Prohibited Causes of Action Concerning Firearms.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Jeter

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** CR Adopted - 1<sup>st</sup> House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  **GENERAL**  
 **DEDICATED**  
 **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill has the following provisions:

- A. It provides that only the state of Indiana may bring or maintain an action by or on behalf of a political subdivision against a firearm or ammunition manufacturer, trade association, seller, or dealer, concerning certain matters.
- B. It prohibits a political subdivision from otherwise independently bringing or maintaining such an action. It specifies an exception.

**Effective Date:** Upon passage; July 1, 2024.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** The Office of the Attorney General should have adequate resources to take any legal action. Any filings or continuation of an ongoing lawsuit against a firearm or ammunition manufacturer, trade association, seller, or dealer would be at the discretion of the Attorney General.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** Local units of government would no longer be permitted to bring or maintain any new or ongoing lawsuits against firearms or ammunition manufacturers, trade associations, sellers, or dealers.

**Additional Information** – One lawsuit is active in state courts. The city of Gary filed a lawsuit against Smith and Wesson Inc., Blythes Sport Shop, and other retail centers and manufacturers.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Office of the Attorney General

**Local Agencies Affected:** Local units of government

**Information Sources:** City of Gary, Indiana v. Smith & Wesson Corp., et al. 18A-CT-00181

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