

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

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6990**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1235

**NOTE PREPARED:** Feb 23, 2024

**BILL AMENDED:** Feb 22, 2024

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

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Jeter

**FIRST SPONSOR:** Sen. Freeman

**BILL STATUS:** CR Adopted - 2<sup>nd</sup> House

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

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) 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 exceptions.

**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:** (Revised) Except under certain conditions, 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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