# COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH OVERSIGHT DIVISION

### FISCAL NOTE

<u>L.R. No.</u>: 4519-01 Bill No.: HB 1969

Subject: Crimes and Punishment; Mental Health Dept.

<u>Type</u>: Original

Date: March 24, 2010

Bill Summary: Creates additional measures intended to increase safety at the Department

of Mental Health.

# **FISCAL SUMMARY**

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	
General Revenue	(Unknown less than \$100,000)	(Unknown less than \$100,000)	(Unknown less than \$100,000)	
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	(Unknown less than \$100,000)	(Unknown less than \$100,000)	(Unknown less than \$100,000)	

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

L.R. No. 4519-01 Bill No. HB 1969 Page 2 of 5 March 24, 2010

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

- □ Estimated Total Net Effect on All funds expected to exceed \$100,000 savings or (cost).
- ☐ Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund expected to exceed \$100,000 (cost).

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
<b>Local Government</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0

L.R. No. 4519-01 Bill No. HB 1969 Page 3 of 5 March 24, 2010

#### FISCAL ANALYSIS

#### **ASSUMPTION**

Officials from the **Office of State Courts Administrator** and **Department of Mental Health** assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organizations.

In response to identical legislation (SB 774), officials from the **Office of Prosecution Services** assumed the proposal would have no fiscal impact on their organization.

For the purpose of this proposed legislation, officials at the **Office of State Public Defender (SPD)** cannot assume that existing staff will provide competent, effective representation for any new cases arising where indigent persons are charged with new crime of endangering a mental Health employee or visitor to a mental health facility. This would become a new Class D felony.

Passage of bills increasing penalties on existing crimes, or creating new crimes, requires the SPD system to further extend resources. While the number of new cases (or cases with increased penalties) may be too few or uncertain to request additional funding for this specific bill, the SPD will continue to request sufficient appropriations to provide competent and effective representation is all its cases.

**Oversight** assumes the SPD can absorb the additional caseload that may result from this proposal.

Officials from the **Department of Corrections (DOC)** state the DOC cannot predict the number of new commitments which may result from the creation of the offense(s) outlined in this proposal. An increase in commitments depends on the utilization by prosecutors and the actual sentences imposed by the court.

If additional persons are sentenced to the custody of the DOC due to the provisions of this legislation, the DOC will incur a corresponding increase in direct offender cost either through incarceration (FY 09 average of \$16.04 per offender, per day, or an annual cost of \$5,855 per inmate) or through supervision provided by the Board of Probation and Parole (FY 09 average of \$3.71 per offender, per day or an annual cost of \$1,354 per offender).

Supervision by the DOC through probation or incarceration would result in additional unknown costs to the department. Eighteen (18) persons would have to be incarcerated per each fiscal year to exceed \$100,000 annually. Due to the narrow scope of this new crime, it is assumed the impact would be less than \$100,000 per year for the DOC.

HWC:LR:OD

L.R. No. 4519-01 Bill No. HB 1969 Page 4 of 5 March 24, 2010

FISCAL IMPACT - State Government	FY 2011 (10 Mo.)	FY 2012	FY 2013
GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
Costs - DOC Increase in incarceration and probation costs	(Unknown less	(Unknown less	(Unknown less
ECTIVATED NET EFFECT ON	than \$100,000)	than \$100,000)	than \$100,000)
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND	(Unknown less than \$100,000)	(Unknown less than \$100,000)	(Unknown less than \$100,000)
FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government	FY 2011 (10 Mo.)	FY 2012	FY 2013
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

### FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

## FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This proposal creates the crime of endangering a Department of Mental Health employee, a visitor or other person at a secure facility, or another offender when a person attempts to cause or knowingly causes these individuals to come into contact with blood, seminal fluid, urine, feces, or saliva. Anyone committing this crime will be guilty of a class D felony unless the substance is unidentified in which case it will be a class A misdemeanor. If the person committing the crime is knowingly infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis C, or hepatitis B and exposes another person to the illness in the commission of the crime, he or she will be guilty of a class C felony.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

L.R. No. 4519-01 Bill No. HB 1969 Page 5 of 5 March 24, 2010

# **SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

Office of State Courts Administrator Department of Mental Health Department of Corrections Office of Prosecution Services Office of State Public Defender

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March 24, 2010