

## **HB 527 – Sentencing for Capital Felonies (Identical SB 280)**

This bill amends s. 921.141, F.S. and s. 921.142, F.S., deleting the recommendation of at least ten jurors and requiring that a sentence of death should be made by a unanimous recommendation of the jury after a defendant's conviction or adjudication of guilt for a capital felony or capital drug trafficking felony.

Per DOC, 5 inmates were admitted to the prison system in FY 15-16 with a death sentence and 420 inmates were admitted with a life sentence. Furthermore, those inmates executed in FY 14-15 and FY 15-16 averaged over 22 years in prison, with the shortest time between initial incarceration and execution being 20 years. Assuming that future inmates would be sentenced to life in prison, any impact on prison beds should not be felt for at least a decade.

**CONFERENCE ADOPTED ESTIMATE: No Impact within  
Forecast Window**

**Requested by: House**