

HB 785 – Aged Prison Inmates

Creates s. 947.148, F.S., establishing the “supervised conditional elderly release” program, with the Florida Commission on Offender Review considering eligible inmates 65 years of age or older and serving at least 50% of their sentences for this program, with multiple other statutory requirements for eligibility. DOC identified a pool of approximately 300 inmates that are potentially eligible for consideration, but because all of these inmates are serving a life sentence, it is not feasible to calculate a point at which 50% of the sentence has been served.

This bill expands conditional medical release to include an inmate who has no current or prior convictions for capital or first degree felonies, who has no current or prior convictions for sexual offenses or offenses against children, who is over 65 years or older, and who has a condition caused by injury, disease, or illness which, to a reasonable degree of medical certainty, renders the inmate infirm or physically impaired to the extent that the inmate does not constitute a danger to himself or herself or others.

See Handout for a subset of the effect. Although, FCOR approves 50% of eligible inmates per fiscal year under current conditional medical release, this could decrease with a larger pool to choose from. The handout assumes 10% approval per fiscal year.

CONFERENCE ADOPTED ESTIMATE: Negative Significant

Requested by: House

HB 785

Aged Prison Inmates

July 1, 2015 Effective Date

The Criminal Justice Estimating Conference met on 3/11/2015 and estimated the following net impact on the inmate population over the next five years:

a	b	c	FUNDS REQUIRED			
Fiscal Year	Projected Cumulative Prison Beds Required	Projected Additional Annual Prison Beds Required	Annual Operating Costs	Annual Fixed Capital Outlay Costs	TOTAL Annual Funds	TOTAL Cumulative Funds
2015-2016	-32	-32	(\$292,208)	(\$4,050,354)	(\$4,342,562)	(\$4,342,562)
2016-2017	-66	-34	(\$919,044)	(\$2,338,770)	(\$3,257,814)	(\$7,600,376)
2017-2018	-103	-37	(\$1,626,118)	(\$2,553,915)	(\$4,180,033)	(\$11,780,409)
2018-2019	-142	-39	(\$2,418,640)	(\$2,711,080)	(\$5,129,720)	(\$16,910,129)
2019-2020	-182	-40	(\$3,275,316)	(\$2,932,062)	(\$6,207,378)	(\$23,117,507)
Total	-182	-182	(\$8,531,326)	(\$14,586,181)	(\$23,117,507)	(\$23,117,507)

Prepared by Florida Legislature, Office of Economic and Demographic Research, March 9, 2015

FY 2013-14 operating costs per inmate were obtained from DOC . The \$49.49 per diem (\$18,064 annual cost) is for all department facilities (excluding private institutions and approximately 150 beds in PRCs) and includes operations, health services, and education services. It does not include debt service costs. It also does not include indirect and administrative costs of \$3.06 per inmate (state facilities). Operating costs in future years were increased by the change in the CPI from the National Economic Estimating Conference.

FY 2006-07 capital costs per bed were based on Department of Corrections cost to build Suwanee CI (\$94,000,000 for 2,003 lawful capacity beds) as reported at the Criminal Justice Impact Conference held February 23, 2010. Capital costs in later years were increased by the change in the chained price index for state and local construction spending obtained from Global Insights, Inc.

Note: This impact statement is not intended to represent the direct appropriations impact of this bill. Rather, it provides a stand-alone estimate of the prison bed need of this particular bill. Cost data are included to allow a comparison of the impact of this bill with other proposed legislation. The actual appropriation associated with passage of this bill will differ depending on a number of factors including the existing inventory of prison beds.