

Department of Planning and Budget 2005 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB 2920

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron Kilgore

3. Committee Passed both houses

4. Title Diversion center programs

5. Summary/Purpose:

The Department of Corrections (DOC) operates diversion centers to which judges may commit offenders convicted of nonviolent felonies as one of the conditions of their probation, in lieu of committing them to prison. The proposed legislation would prohibit judges from imposing a commitment to diversion centers on offenders on whom they also impose an active prison sentence.

6. Fiscal Impact: Final. See Item 8.

7. Budget amendment necessary: None.

8. Fiscal implications:

DOC is authorized and funded to operate five detention centers. Because the proposed legislation will decrease, rather than increase, the demand for beds in those facilities, it will not result in additional costs for DOC. Indeed, it could indirectly result in savings. To the extent that some judges are requiring offenders to spend time in diversion centers after being released from prison, a practice which the legislation would prohibit, those beds would become available for diverting offenders from prison, thus reducing somewhat the need for additional prison beds. However, the diversion centers are not now being fully occupied and, thus, it is unlikely that any additional offenders would be diverted as a result of the freeing up of any beds caused by this legislation. Therefore, the legislation would have no fiscal impact on DOC.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Department of Corrections

10. Technical amendment necessary: None.

11. Other comments: None.

Date: 03/04/05 / rwh

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