

Department of Planning and Budget

2010 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 913

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☒ Enrolled

2. Patron: Bell, R.B.

3. Committee: Passed both houses

4. Title: Visitation of prisoners

5. Summary:

Current law gives members of the General Assembly and members of the Board of Corrections authority to enter state correctional facilities. It also authorizes attorneys to enter to confer with inmates who are their clients and with other inmates who may be witnesses in cases. The law goes on to give the director of the Department of Corrections (DOC), subject to approval by the Board of Corrections, the authority to prescribe the time and conditions under which other persons may enter any state correctional facility.

The proposed legislation directs DOC to promulgate a policy whereby a victim of a crime may visit the perpetrator of the crime in prison. The legislation would allow any such policy to include provisions necessary to preserve the safety and security of those involved in the visit and the good order of the facility. The legislation does not apply to juvenile victims or to offenders sentenced to death.

6. No Fiscal Impact. Final.

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: None.

8. Fiscal Implications:

It is not projected that any policy developed as a result of the proposed legislation would have any fiscal impact when implemented.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Corrections

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: None.