

Department of Planning and Budget 2011 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 1662

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

2. Patron: Alexander

3. Committee: Militia, Police and Public Safety

4. Title: HIV testing of inmates

5. Summary:

The proposed legislation would require the Department of Corrections (DOC) to test each inmate, who does not have a history of a positive test result, for HIV infection upon arrival in a DOC facility and upon discharge from DOC custody.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: None

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications:

The Department of Corrections currently will test an inmate for HIV only if the inmate requests it or if there is any clinical indication of HIV. Testing inmates routinely upon their arrival in a DOC reception center and before they are discharged will result in additional cost to the agency. It is anticipated the agency can absorb this additional cost in its existing appropriation.

There are two basic tests used in testing for HIV infection. The first is a screening test called the EIA. If an EIA test indicates the presence of HIV in a person, a follow-up test, the Western Blot, is administered to confirm the initial indication. In projecting the total possible additional costs, a major uncertainty is how many inmates would test positive on the first test and thus be administered the second, confirming, test.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice publishes data on the incidence of HIV in state prisons. In 2008, of those states that tested inmates for HIV either upon entry or upon release, the percentage of inmates reported to be HIV positive ranged from 0.4 percent to 3.5 percent. The median percentage was about 1.0 percent. Therefore, for purposes of this fiscal impact analysis, it is assumed that one percent of the inmates administered the EIA test would test positive and would be administered the Western Blot confirmation test.

The following table shows the projected annual cost of testing all inmates entering or leaving DOC facilities in a year, based on the number of discharges in FY 2010 and projected number of inmates received in FY 2012:

	No. EIA	Cost per	Total Cost	No. Western	Cost per	Total cost
Statge	Tests	EIA Test	EIA tests	Blot tests	WB Test	WB tests
Reception	8,000	\$3.65	\$29,200	80	\$49.34	\$3,947
Discharge	7,952	\$3.65	\$29,025	80	\$49.34	\$3,924
Total			\$58,225			\$7,871

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 2/03/2011

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