

Department of Planning and Budget 2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB 322

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

2. Patron: Ebbin

3. Committee: Reported out of committee

4. Title: Inmate telephone systems

5. Summary:

The Department of Corrections has a contract with a private vendor to provide telephone service for inmates. Inmates using the system, or persons permitted to call the inmates, are charged fees by the vendor to use the system. The proposed legislation would require that the system be established with the lowest available rates and there not be imposed any additional commissions or fees.

The legislation also authorized local and regional jails and community corrections facilities to provide phone systems at the lowest available rates.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: See Item 8 below.

8. Fiscal Implications:

Effective December 1, 2015, the Department of Corrections (DOC) entered into a contract with a private vendor for the provision of telephone services to inmates, with no commission on the revenue collected to be paid by the company to the department. An amendment in the proposed budget for FY 2016, the caboose bill, reflects this contractual change and removes all revenue previously anticipated from commissions. The Governor's introduced budget bill for the 2016-2018 biennium does not include any revenue projections from commissions collected on inmate telephone revenues. The introduced budget bill also includes funding for DOC to pay the vendor directly for the additional equipment and programming needed for security reasons, such as recording capabilities and restrictions on the numbers that inmates can call or receive calls from. Previously, these costs were built by DOC into the telephone rates charged inmates or those calling them.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:

Department of Corrections
Local and regional jails

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 1/26/2016

Document: G:\LEGIS\fis-16\sb322s.docx Dick Hall-Sizemore