

Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB908

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

2. Patron: Lopez

3. Committee: Public Safety

4. Title: Use of canines in correctional facilities; prohibited acts.

5. Summary: This bill prohibits any correctional officer, jail officer, or other employee of a state, local, or juvenile correctional facility who is permitted to handle canines from using a canine to i) extract a prisoner or a juvenile from his cell or (ii) intervene in an altercation, fight, or other incident between prisoners or juveniles. The bill provides an exception if there is threat of death or serious bodily injury to the prisoner or juvenile, other prisoners or juveniles, or any officer or employee of the facility.

The bill requires that databases documenting all incidents involving the use of a canine be established by the Department of Corrections (DOC) and the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). The bill requires that reports must be made available to the public and must include the name of the facility, the name of the canine, and the name of the canine's handler.

The bill requires DOC and DJJ to make public any policies and regulations relating to (i) the use of canines, (ii) training requirements for both canines and the handlers of such canines, and (iii) the supervision of the officers or employees who are permitted to handle such canines.

The bill stipulates that provisions do not apply to the training or use of detector canines or detector canine handlers.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

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

8. Fiscal Implications: According to the Department of Juvenile Justice, this bill is not expected to have a fiscal impact on agency operations. The impact this bill may have, as it relates to the database documentation, on the Department of Corrections and local and regional jails is not known at this time. If further information is received, this fiscal impact statement will be revised.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile Justice, local and regional jails

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None