

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 1670 - HB 1708

February 3, 2014

**SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL:** Requires the square footage of single or multi-occupancy jail cells in local correctional facilities to meet the standards of the American Correctional Association (ACA). Exempts those correctional facilities constructed before the effective date of any minimum standards required by the ACA.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (011792):** Requires the square footage of single or multi-occupancy jail cells in local correctional facilities to meet the minimum standards of the Tennessee Corrections Institute (TCI) that were in effect at the time of the construction of the facility, unless exempting a facility from such standards would not pose a serious life, safety, or security hazard as determined by the board of control of TCI. Authorizes a local correctional facility to conform to more recent minimum standards as required by the ACA in order to accommodate a larger inmate population.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:**

**Unchanged from the original fiscal note.**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- According to the Department of Corrections and the Tennessee Corrections Institute (TCI), changing the minimum size standard of jail cells at local correctional facilities will have no significant fiscal impact on state government.
- According to the County Technical Assistance Service (CTAS), the former set of standards imposed, TCI's minimum standards, required 100 square feet per inmate, whereas the new ACA standards only require 80 square feet per inmate.
- It is possible that local correctional facilities could save money when building new facilities by using less land, materials and workers; however, due to multiple unknown factors, the amount of any savings are unable to be determined. Any such savings are estimated to be not significant.

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**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" and last name "Geise" clearly distinguishable.

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/jdb