

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 129

January 20, 2017

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes county sheriffs or chief administrators of municipal jails to contract with substance abuse treatment programs licensed or certified by the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services in order to provide substance abuse services to inmates housed in the county or municipal jail. Requires a two-day reduction in sentencing for each day of participation in such treatment services for inmates successfully completing the treatment program.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact – The net fiscal impact on local government is dependent upon multiple unknown factors and cannot be reasonably determined. However, any impact to local government is considered permissive. Further, any local expenditures incurred as a result of entering into contracts for the provision of treatment services is expected to be offset, either partially or in whole, by subsequent reductions of local incarceration costs.

Any fiscal impact to state government is considered to be not significant.

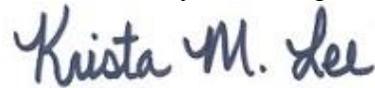
Assumptions:

- According to the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, there are 245 licensees that are eligible to provide substance abuse services to inmates housed in county or municipal jails.
- There will be a permissive increase in local government expenditures if a county sheriff or municipal jail chief administrator elects to enter into a contract with a substance abuse treatment program for the provision of treatment services.
- Reducing sentences by two days for every one day spent in treatment services for inmates that successfully complete the treatment program will result in a permissive decrease in local government incarceration expenditures for the respective jurisdictions that elect to enter into contracts with substance abuse treatment programs.
- The average cost to local governments to house an inmate in a local jail facility is \$60 per day. For each day an inmate participates in a treatment program that leads to the successful completion of the program, there will be a corresponding decrease of \$120 in local government incarceration expenditures (\$60 x 2 days).

- The total statewide permissive increase in local expenditures associated with performing contracts and the corresponding permissive decrease in local incarceration expenditures is dependent on multiple unknown factors such as: the number of county sheriffs or chief administrators of municipal jails that will elect to enter into contracts for the provision of treatment services, the cost structure, term, and scope of any contract entered into to provide treatment services, the total number of eligible inmates that will elect to participate in treatment services, the total number of treatment days required to complete each treatment program, and the number of eligible inmates that will successfully complete each treatment program. Given the extent of unknown factors, the precise net impact to local government cannot be reasonably determined.
- Based on information provided by the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, this legislation will have no impact on department or state incarceration programs or facilities.

CERTIFICATION:

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



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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