

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**SB 1571**

January 23, 2020

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Authorizes inmate relations coordinators and correctional officers who are employed by the Department of Correction (DOC) to request a state identification card from the Secretary of State (SOS) certifying authorization to carry a firearm at all times and in all places within Tennessee if they have completed the established probationary period, rather than if they are vested.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**NOT SIGNIFICANT**

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-17-1350(d)(2), inmate relations coordinators and correctional officers who are employed by DOC and have successfully completed the established probationary period are authorized to carry firearms at all times and in all places within Tennessee, on-duty or off-duty, regardless of the employee's regular duty hours or assignments.
- According to the Tennessee Attorney General's Opinion No. 19-16, the state identification card from SOS is proof that the holder is authorized to carry a firearm, but is not necessary for qualification to carry under Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-17-1350.
- All applicable inmate relations coordinators and correctional officers have already been issued service firearms; therefore, no additional firearms will need to be acquired or issued as a result of the legislation.
- Any increase in issuance of state identification cards by SOS can be accomplished within existing resources.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-17-1350(f)(6)(B), it is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by a fine of \$50.00 if an inmate relations coordinator or correctional officer knowingly fails to return a state identification card at the end of employment by DOC.
- Any increase of state identification cards issued to applicable employees will not result in a sufficient increase in the number of unreturned cards for state or local government to experience a significant increase in prosecutions.
- No significant fiscal impact to state or local government.

**CERTIFICATION:**

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

Handwritten signature of Krista Lee Carsner in black ink.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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