



FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 322

Committee: Ways and Means General Fund Sponsor: Senator Clyde Chambliss

Analyst: Peter Grogan Date: 04/29/2024

Senate Bill 322 as passed the Senate would increase the obligations of the Department of Corrections (DOC) by a department estimated \$1.5 million dollars annually beginning in Fiscal Year 2024 through Fiscal Year 2028, to: (1) employ 14 administrators to oversee operations and management of DOC facilities; and (2) employ 15 exempt employees to establish constituent services for DOC. This bill provides that these positions would be exempt from the State Merit System and that the DOC commissioner would appoint these personnel and set their compensation, not to exceed that of the commissioner.

This bill would also further increase the obligations of DOC by an undetermined amount dependent on the compensation established by the commissioner for the two additional deputy commissioners that may be appointed, and whose salary would be set, by the commissioner, as provided by this bill.

In addition, this bill would increase the administrative obligations of the Joint Legislative Prison Oversight Committee to provide for the membership, duties, and responsibilities of the Family of the Incarcerated Advisory Board and to study and address services provided by DOC to constituents and families of inmates.

Further this bill would increase the obligations of the Department of Examiners of Public Accounts, by an undetermined amount, to hire an additional staff member to assist in the operations of the Joint Prison Oversight Committee and provide oversight to the Board.