



FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 316

Committee: Judiciary

Sponsor: Senator Larry Stutts

Analyst: Peter Grogan

Date: 03/10/2026

Senate Bill 316 as introduced would increase the obligations of the Chief Examiner of Public Accounts, by an undetermined amount, to: (1) appoint a Prison Oversight Coordinator created to assist in the coordination of the operations of the Joint Prison Oversight Committee; (2) hire up to two additional employees; and (3) provide necessary equipment and office space.

This bill would require the coordinator to: (1) inspect each Department of Corrections (DOC) facility within a specified time frame; (2) provide reports to the Governor, DOC, the Attorney General, House and Senate Judiciary Committees, and the Joint Prison Oversight Committee; and (3) conduct investigations into complaints received from certain individuals adversely affecting the health safety, welfare and rights of incarcerated people or correctional staff.

In addition, this bill would increase the obligations of the DOC, by an undetermined amount, to: (1) provide office space for the coordinator in each DOC facility; (2) comply with requests for information from the coordinator; and (3) respond to reports issued by the coordinator within 30 days.

Further, this bill would create the twelve-member Corrections Oversight Board to supervise the coordinator and hold hearings to review the coordinator's findings and recommendations; which would increase the obligations of: (1) the Legislature, paid from the State General Fund, by an estimated \$1,405 per meeting for legislators appointed to the board; and (2) presumably, the State General Fund, by an estimated \$2,800 per meeting for other members of the board appointed by the Joint Prison Oversight Committee.

Finally, this bill could increase the obligations of the Office of Attorney General presumably, by an undetermined amount, to provide special prosecutors to district attorneys that have a close or medium security facility in their circuit, to investigate and prosecute criminal cases directed to the office.