

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 54th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB3212
Version:	CS
Request Number:	
Author:	Representative Hickman
Date:	2/27/2014
Impact:	Decrease in Prison Costs Approximately \$4.1 million annually

Research Analysis

The committee substitute to HB 3212 requires the Pardon and Parole Board to consider all nonviolent offenders for parole that are within 12 months of their scheduled release if all of the state's correctional facilities reach maximum capacity.

Prepared By: Brad Wolgamott

Fiscal Analysis

The CS for HB3212 requires the Pardon and Parole Board to consider all nonviolent offenders who are not serving an 85% sentence and are within 12 months of their scheduled release for parole if the state's total correctional facility limits reach 95% capacity. Currently the Pardon and Parole Board must consider all nonviolent offenders for parole that are within 6 months of their scheduled release.

There are currently 4,271 offenders that would qualify for parole consideration under the conditions proposed by HB3212. Using numbers from the Pardon and Parole Board for January, approximately 33% of offenders who are considered are recommended for parole. The Department of Corrections (DOC) estimates daily savings of \$11 per offender. If 33% of the 4,271 offenders eligible under HB3212 were granted parole, it would free up 1,409 beds that could filled with offenders currently in county jail backup. DOC currently pays \$27 per day for county jail backup beds, so the daily savings would be \$16 per bed. The savings would be phased in as offenders in DOC beds are paroled and offenders in county jail backup beds are processed through reception and placed in a DOC facility. DOC estimates a 50% phase in rate.

The approximate annual savings to DOC was calculated as follows:

$$1,409 \text{ beds @ } \$16 = \$22,544 \times 365 = \$8,228,560 \times 50\% = \$4,114,280$$

Prepared By: Marilyn Anderson

Other Considerations

Currently, there are 1,955 sentenced offenders in county jail backup waiting a DOC bed. HB3212 would help counties by alleviating the backup in the county jails, which is costing some counties more than the reimbursement rate of \$27 per day.

