Bill Summary 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.: SB 1545
Version: CS
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Author: Sen. Howard
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Bill Analysis

The CS for SB 1545 requires the court to primarily consider the safety of the public when setting the bail amount for offenders. The court will consider the nature of the offense and whether the defendant has failed to appear in court in the previous 3 years. The measure also directs the Administrative Office of the Courts to develop a public safety report system. The system shall be available to appropriate officials in each county and each municipality at no cost. In no case shall the system be used by the court as the sole resource when determining the bail amount nor shall it include a scoring or assessment of the defendant's risk. The system shall be used as a resource by the judicial officer to develop the public safety report when determining the bail amount. No later than October 1 of each year, with the previous 8 quarters of data to be reported on October 1, 2022, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall submit a report containing the data collected pursuant to this section during the preceding fiscal year to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

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