

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 1509

PRINTER NO. 3742

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

June 26, 2023

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative N. Nelson

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 1509 amends Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) by transferring provisions of Act 47 of 2023 related to juvenile detention facilities to the Juvenile Act (Chapter 63 of Title 42) and makes additional changes for consistency with current law and practice and Title 61 (Prisons and Parole) to allow county jail boards of inspectors to appoint not less than two and not more than four additional members to the board.

Title 42

Act 47 of 2023 added certain requirements for correctional institutions and juvenile facilities regarding pregnant and postpartum individuals residing in those facilities.

The legislation moves the provisions of Act 47 pertaining to juvenile detention facilities to the Juvenile Act (contained in Title 42) and makes the following changes to those provisions:

- Provides definitions for both "seclusion" and "exclusion;"
- Removes restrictions on telephone usage or visitation as alternative forms of discipline;
- Removes the Department of Human Services from the reporting requirements that pertain to the Department of Corrections;
- Establishes a deadline of 30 days after the end of a fiscal year for reports relating to pregnant or postpartum children to be filed with the Department of Human Services; and
- Makes minor technical changes.

Title 61

The bill amends Title 61 to authorize county boards of prison inspectors to appoint not less than two and not more than four additional members to the board. These members must be residents of the county for which the board is established.

Additionally, it allows second class A counties to elect to be governed by the provisions of 61 Pa.C.S. §§ 1731-1736 (relating to Board of Inspectors).

The amendments to Title 42 shall apply retroactively to June 11, 2024.

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This act shall take effect as follows:

- The amendments to Title 61 shall take effect in 60 days; and
- The remainder of this act shall take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of this act will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.