

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 130 - HB 160

February 24, 2017

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires the Montgomery County Sheriff or the sheriff's designee, in consultation with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (DMHSAS), to establish a two-year substance abuse treatment services pilot program for eligible inmates housed in the Montgomery County Jail effective January 1, 2018. Requires the Sheriff or the sheriff's designee to hire two licensed social workers and two caseworkers with relevant education or experience to administer the substance abuse treatment pilot program. Requires a two-day reduction in sentencing for each day of participation in such treatment services for inmates successfully completing the treatment program. Requires the Sheriff to report to the General Assembly annually on the progress and success of the pilot program.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase Local Expenditures – \$118,500/FY18-19/Montgomery County\***  
**\$202,500/FY19-20/Montgomery County\***  
**\$101,300/FY20-21/Montgomery County\***

**Other Fiscal Impact - The decrease in local incarceration expenditures to Montgomery County is dependent upon multiple unknown factors and cannot be reasonably determined.**

Assumptions relative to Pilot Program Staff:

- This legislation requires the pilot program to take effect January 1, 2018, and to end January 1, 2020. This effective date provision of the bill will make the legislation effective for approximately 50 percent of FY18-19, 100 percent of FY19-20, and 50 percent of FY20-21.
- The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) will hire two social worker positions at a total estimated cost of \$99,224 annually [(salary \$34,896 + \$12,716 benefits + communications \$1,400 + supplies \$600) x 2 positions].
- The increase in local expenditures is estimated to be \$49,612 in FY18-19 (\$99,224 x 50.0%); \$99,224 in FY19-20; and \$49,612 in FY20-21 (\$99,224 x 50.0%).
- MCSO will hire two case worker positions at a total estimated cost of \$103,282 annually [(salary \$36,636 + \$13,005 benefits + communications \$1,400 + supplies \$600) x 2 positions].

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- The increase in local expenditures is estimated to be \$51,641 in FY18-19 (\$103,282 x 50.0%); \$103,282 in FY19-20; and \$51,641 in FY20-21 (\$103,282 x 50.0%).
- There will be a one-time increase in local expenditures for the 4 positions estimated to be \$17,200 [(office furniture \$2,700 + computer \$1,600) x 4 positions] in FY18-19.
- The total increase in local expenditures to Montgomery County is estimated to be \$118,453 in FY18-19 (\$49,612 + \$51,641 + \$17,200), \$202,506 in FY19-20 (\$99,224 + \$103,282), and \$101,253 in FY20-21 (\$49,612 + \$51,641).

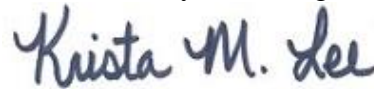
Assumptions relative to Eligible Inmate Sentence Reduction:

- Reducing sentences by two days for every one day spent in treatment services for inmates that successfully complete the treatment program will result in decrease in local government incarceration expenditures for MCSO.
- The average cost to local governments to house an inmate in a local jail facility is \$60 per day. For each day an inmate participates in the pilot program that leads to the successful completion of the program, there will be a corresponding decrease of \$120 in incarceration expenditures (\$60 x 2 days) to MCSO.
- The total decrease in local incarceration expenditures to MCSO is dependent on multiple unknown factors such as: the total number of eligible inmates that will elect to participate in treatment services, the total number of treatment days required to complete treatment program, and the number of eligible inmates that will successfully complete the treatment program. Given the extent of unknown factors, the precise decrease in incarceration expenditures to MCSO cannot be reasonably determined.
- Based on information provided by DMHSAS, the pilot project will have no impact on department or state incarceration programs or facilities. Any fiscal impact to state government is estimated to be not significant.

\*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: *no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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