TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2833 - SB 2757

March 7, 2024

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Department of Correction (DOC) to create and develop a five-year pilot program (Program) for the release and parole of elderly inmates. Requires eligible inmate be: (1) age 60 years of age or older; (2) have served a minimum of 65 percent of the sentence imposed by the court, less any sentence credits earned and retained by the elderly inmate; (3) is not serving a sentence for a violent sexual offense, or more than one conviction for first degree murder or facilitation of first degree murder; and (4) is not serving a sentence of imprisonment for life without parole.

Requires the Program provide for the release and parole of elderly inmates to home detention under the supervision of the Board of Parole (BOP). Authorizes an elderly inmate's release to home detention be revoked upon violation of the terms of home detention.

Requires the DOC to file an annual report to outlined standing committees of the General Assembly by March 1 following the end of each year the Program is in effect, detailing: (1) whether the Program resulted in a decrease in the total prison population of this state; (2) any cost savings to the state as a result of the Program; (3) the impact of the Program on the safety of communities affected by the Program; and (4) other available information regarding the benefits and consequences of the Program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact – Any decrease in incarceration expenditures are dependent upon unknown factors and cannot be determined with reasonable certainty.

Assumptions:

- The DOC can create the Program utilizing existing resources and personnel; therefore, any fiscal impact to the Department is estimated to be not significant.
- Based upon information provided by the DOC, the proposed legislation would make nine offenders eligible for release to parole.
- To the extent any eligible offenders are released to parole, there will be a decrease in incarceration expenditures. The timing and extent of any such decrease is dependent upon multiple unknown factors, including but not limited to, whether or not any of the current nine eligible offenders are released to parole, the amount of time left on their

sentence prior to release, and the number of offenders who become eligible for the pilot program in the next five years.

• Any impact to the Board of Parole is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

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

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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