

# OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sSB-521

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION.

## ***OFA Fiscal Note***

### ***State Impact:***

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 19 \$	FY 20 \$
Admin. Serv., Dept.	GF - Cost	46,721	46,721
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits <sup>1</sup>	GF - Cost	16,974	16,974
Correction, Dept.	GF - Cost	1,000	1,000
Correction, Dept.	GF - Potential Minimal Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

***Municipal Impact:*** None

### ***Explanation***

This bill makes various changes to the statutes governing the Department of Correction (DOC) and results in a cost to the state.

**Section 1** requires any applicant to the DOC to submit a pre-employment psychological examination and results in no cost to the state due to the applicant paying any associated fees.

**Sections 2-4 and 6** establish the First Chance Trust Fund, a non-lapsing fund administered by the Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission (CJPAC). The bill specifies that the Office of Policy and

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<sup>1</sup>The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 36.33% of payroll in FY 19 and FY 20.

Management and the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) develop a mechanism that allows any state agency to assess a 1% withholding on certain state contracts, and to deposit any revenue generated from the withholding into the First Chance Trust Fund. It then requires CJPAC to use that revenue to provide grants for programs for at-risk youth in distressed municipalities.

It is anticipated that DAS would need to hire a Processing Technician to process any 1% contract withholdings. The annualized cost for a Processing Technician is anticipated to be about \$63,695 (\$46,721 for salary and \$16,974 for fringe benefits).

The 1% withholding on certain contracts results in the vendor not being paid 100%. It is anticipated that certain vendors may increase their bids to cover for the 1% withholding. To the extent that agencies choose to assess the 1% withholding, this could increase contract costs, which could be significant.

The bill makes a change to the risk reduction credits report and results in no fiscal impact to the state.

**Section 5** requires the Commissioner of DOC to establish a wellness initiative for the benefit of employees who interact with inmates and results in a cost to the state of \$1,000 per year for supplies and materials.

**Section 7** makes a procedural change for who reviews an inmates risk reduction credits and results in no fiscal impact to the state.

**Section 8** makes a technical change regarding the establishment and maintenance of optical shops and results in no fiscal impact to the state.

**Section 9** allows the DOC Correctional Enterprises to sell products to benefit corporations and results in potential minimal revenue gain. There are approximately 120 benefit corporations in Connecticut and based on their business it appears that the Correctional Enterprises will not meet the needs of most of them resulting in a potential

minimal revenue gain to the state.

**Section 10** eliminates inmate discharge savings accounts and results in no fiscal impact to the state.

**Sections 11-14** make conforming changes to statute and result in no fiscal impact to the state.

***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.