

**JBC Staff Fiscal Analysis**  
**House Appropriations Committee**

Concerning the procedure for releasing an individual from the department of corrections.

---

**Prime Sponsors:**

Representative Jackson; Mabrey  
Senator Cutter

**Date Prepared:**

April 20, 2026

**JBC Analyst:**

Justin Brakke  
303-866-4958

**Fiscal Impacts**

---

Appropriation Not Required, Amendment in Packet

General Fund Impact

Significant Appropriation Increase in Second Year

**Fiscal Note Status**

---

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 03/16/26.

**No Change:** Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill.

**Amendments in This Packet**

---

L.002 Bill Sponsor amendment - changes fiscal impact.

**Current Appropriations Clause in Bill**

The bill neither requires nor contains an appropriation clause for FY 2026-27.

**Description of Amendments in This Packet**

**L.002**

Bill Sponsor amendment **L.002** (attached) strikes a new requirement for the Department of Corrections to provide released inmates with a transportation pass valid for at least 30 days, or an equivalent subsidy. The LCS fiscal assessment, dated April 14, 2026 (attached), reduces General Fund costs by an estimated \$148,000 in FY 2026-27 and \$300,000 in FY 2027-28. This brings the bill's fiscal impact to about \$141,000 General Fund in FY 2026-27 and \$277,000 General Fund in FY 2027-28. JBC staff concurs.

## Points to Consider

---

The Joint Budget Committee has proposed a budget package for FY 2026-27 based on the March 2026 Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) revenue forecast. The budget package includes \$57.3 million in set-asides for legislation outside of the package (see table below). The budget package accounts for the 13.0 percent reserve associated with the placeholders.

### General Fund Appropriation Placeholders for Other 2026 Legislation

Item	FY 2026-27
SB 26-149 (Pathways for Individuals with Mental Health Disorders)	\$23,222,868
Competency services	20,000,000
Potential prison capacity supplemental	5,900,000
Applied Behavioral Analysis Licensing	5,000,000
County Administration shared services	3,100,000
Medicaid Working Group	500,000
HB 26-1331 (Modify 2026 Interim Committees)	-396,469
<b>Total - Placeholders for other legislation</b>	<b>\$57,326,399</b>

### General Fund Impact

This bill requires a General Fund expenditure of \$288,992 for FY 2026-27. Per the fiscal note, this can be absorbed within existing appropriations due to underspending in the relevant line item. Consequently, the bill reduces the amount available for budget balancing purposes by the same amount.

If the Committee adopts **L.002**, the bill requires a General Fund expenditure of about \$141,000 General Fund. This reduces the amount available for budget balancing purposes by the same amount.

### Future Fiscal Impact

Although this bill would not require a General Fund appropriation for FY 2026-27, it is projected to require a General Fund expenditure of \$577,818 in FY 2027-28. This amount exceeds current underspending by about \$178,000. The bill would therefore require a \$178,000 increase in General Fund appropriations in FY 2027-28.

If the Committee adopts **L.002**, the bill requires a General Fund expenditure of about \$277,000 General Fund in FY 2027-28. Recent underspending of about \$400,000 suggests that this amount can be absorbed within the existing line item appropriation.