



**Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff**

HB16-1215

**FINAL
FISCAL NOTE**

FISCAL IMPACT: State Local Statutory Public Entity Conditional No Fiscal Impact

Drafting Number: LLS 16-0825

Date: May 31, 2016

Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. McCann; Kagan
Sen. Guzman

Bill Status: Signed into Law

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BILL TOPIC: PURPOSES OF PAROLE

Summary of Legislation

This bill redefines the purpose of parole as to:

- further all purposes of sentencing and improve public safety by reducing the incidence of crime and technical parole violations committed by people on parole;
- prepare, select, and assist people who, after serving a statutorily defined period of incarceration, will be transitioned and returned to the community;
- set individualized conditions of parole and to provide supervision services and support to assist people on parole in addressing identified risks and needs; and
- achieve a successful discharge from parole supervision for people on parole through compliance with the terms and conditions of release that address their risks and needs.

Background

Over the past two years, parole practices within the Department of Corrections (DOC) have shifted as a result of two key pieces of legislation.

In 2014, the General Assembly enacted House Bill 14-1355, which provided approximately \$8.2 million and 78 FTE each year to the DOC to improve its reentry programs. That bill directed the DOC to develop and implement initiatives to decrease recidivism, enhance public safety, and increase each offender's chances of achieving success upon his or her release. These initiatives include programs to assist offenders in a correctional facility to prepare for release and a grant program that provides funding to community organizations that provide reentry services to offenders.

In 2015, the General Assembly enacted Senate Bill 15-124, which established a program to provide intermediate sanctions, including brief periods of incarceration in a county jail, rather than requiring a return to prison for all technical parole violations.

Assessment

This bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact because it does not change the revenue, expenditures, or workload for any agency of state or local government. The bill makes the statutory definition of parole consistent with current practice within the DOC.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on April 21, 2016, and takes effect August 10, 2016, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Corrections

Information Technology