



Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff

HB17-1015

FINAL
FISCAL NOTE

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

Drafting Number: LLS 17-0642
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Hooton
Sen. Cooke

Date: May 23, 2017
Bill Status: Signed into Law
Fiscal Analyst: Amanda Hayden (303-866-4918)

BILL TOPIC: CLARIFY GOOD TIME SENTENCE REDUCTIONS IN JAILS

Summary of Legislation

The bill consolidates the various statutes governing deductions of time for county jail inmates. The bill clarifies that an inmate may earn a deduction from the time of his or her sentence in the amount of:

- 1 day for each 15 days of the sentence for faithfully performing the duties assigned him or her; plus
- 10 days for each 30 days of the sentence for completing or demonstrating outstanding progress in a designated program or educational activity within the jail; plus
- 13 days for each 30 days of the sentence on his or her sentence for being designated by the county sheriff as a trusty prisoner, performing work within or outside the jail in a creditable manner, and conducting him- or herself by the rules; and
- 13 days for each 30 days of the sentence if the inmate is sentenced to jail as a direct sentence or as a condition of probation and is permitted to participate in work, educational programming outside the jail, medical release, home detention, or day reporting programs.

Regardless of how many programs an inmate participates in, he or she may not receive a deduction of more than 15 days in any 30-day period. In addition to the deductions described above, an inmate may receive a three-day maximum deduction when the inmate takes an unusual or extraordinary action, as determined by the county sheriff. The bill also repeals a part of statute that allows the county to deny privileges to any inmate who files a frivolous lawsuit.

Local Government Impact

This bill will affect county jail workload and expenditures. The bill may make the calculation and recording of sentence reductions for county jail inmates easier for county sheriffs. To the extent that offenders spend more or less time in county jails as a result of the bill, costs may increase or decrease. The cost to house an offender in county jails varies from about \$53 to \$114 per day. Because county sheriffs have indicated that they may be calculating earned and good time sentence reductions differently, the precise impact of the bill cannot be determined, but it is assumed to be minimal.

Effective Date

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on March 23, 2017, and takes effect August 9, 2017, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
Municipalities

Information Technology
Sheriffs

Judicial