

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE**  
**Fiscal Note**



Fiscal Note On: **HB 77** HLS 20RS 242  
 Bill Text Version: **ENROLLED**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> May 23, 2020 9:17 AM	<b>Author:</b> DEVILLIER
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Probation and Parole	<b>Analyst:</b> Monique Appeaning
<b>Subject:</b> Reporting Requirements of Parolees/Conditions of Probation	

PARDON/PAROLE EN SEE FISC NOTE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1  
 Provides relative to the supervision and reporting requirements of persons on probation or parole

Present law provides that a person released on parole may be required to meet with or report to the parolee's probation and parole officer when ordered to do so. Present law requires a defendant on probation to report to his or her probation officer as directed. Proposed law provides that a probation and parole officer who supervises a person released on probation or parole shall schedule meetings required as a condition of the person's release at such times and locations that take into consideration and accommodate the person's work schedule. Proposed law provides that in lieu of requiring the defendant to appear in-person, the probation and parole officer may utilize technology portals, including cellular telephone and other electronic communication devices that allow simultaneous voice and video communication in real time. Proposed law authorizes the use of such technology for required reporting or meetings of a person who is self-employed at the discretion of the defendant's probation officer. Proposed law directs DPSC to promulgate specific rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement the provisions of this legislation.

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>
<b>Annual Total</b>						
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

Proposed law will result in an indeterminable SGF expenditure impact to the Department of Public Safety and Corrections - Corrections Services (DPSC) in order to implement the use of technology for probation officers in certain circumstances. The provision allowing electronic communication, including simultaneous voice and video, could potentially result in a net indeterminable reduction in travel expenditures for Probation and Parole Officers traveling to meet with probationers or parolees. The provisions detailing the standards necessary for such technology could result in a net indeterminable expenditure increase related to acquiring necessary technology interfaces to permit such communication. The number of probationers and parolees that may be determined as suitable for using the technology interface in lieu of in-person meetings is indeterminable and will rely on the specific rules promulgated by DPSC as well as the judgment of the Probation and Parole Officer assigned to each probationer or parolee.

For illustrative purposes, to utilize a mobile application such as SmartLink that supports compliance for probation and parole conditions, the department provides a conservative expenditure estimate of \$90K for every 30 days to support approximately 3,000 cases monthly. If the number of individuals identified as eligible for monitoring through technology were to be greater than 3,000, the costs would increase accordingly. The department cited an individual product for use in monitoring that is specifically designed to provide a web-based, secure offender monitoring platform. There are other potential products on the market that could potentially effectuate simultaneous voice and video communication at different price points, some of which may significantly lower the expenditure projection provided by DPSC. However, the LFO acknowledges that communication between a probationer or parolee and his or her supervising officer likely create special circumstances that are more adequately addressed by an application specifically designed for this purpose.

The department reports that it currently has approximately 2,700 cases across the state that involves monitoring either high risk individuals or those convicted of a sex offense. Those cases would presumably fall into a category failing to qualify for monitoring through technology.

For informational purposes, all current Probation and Parole Districts (21) have state issued phones and 100% of Probation and Parole Officers have state issued mobile phones. If a parolee does not have a mobile phone, the agency typically connects the parolee to a program that provides free mobile phones.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

Senate Dual Referral Rules  
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}  
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House  
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}  
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

*Evan Brasseaux*  


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**Evan Brasseaux**  
**Staff Director**