

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 458** HLS 26RS 891

Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 20, 2026	8:58 AM	Author: KNOX
Dept./Agy.: Sheriffs		Analyst: Daniel Druilhet
Subject: Inmate Participation in Work Release Programs		

CORRECTIONS/PRISONERS

EG SEE FISC NOTE LF EX

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Provides relative to inmates who participate in work release programs

Current law provides for work release programs; provides for liability of inmates with work release privileges for certain expenses; requires a specific disbursement order for wages by the sheriff. Proposed law removes an inmate's liability with respect to costs for clothing and other necessary expenses incident to his employment or placement; provides that every inmate participating in a work release program be assessed a reasonable cost for room and board, subject to restrictions; provides that the total amount assessed for room and board from wages from an inmate on work release shall not exceed 33% of his gross wages earned, and prohibits any additional per diem or related charge to be imposed beyond this amount; updates the order of distribution by - changing the disbursement to an assessment for only room and board, not to exceed 33% of the inmate's gross wages (from food, clothing, medical, and dental expenses); changing necessary travel expenses to and from work and other expenses related to employment (from travel expenses to and from work and incidental expenses); payment of any court-ordered restitution or legally recognized obligation (from payment of legal obligations); and the remaining balance, payable directly to an inmate on a regular basis, not subject to any withholding (from any balance to the inmate upon his discharge); provides that after receiving disbursements, the inmate retains the remaining portion of his earned wages.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	

Annual Total

REVENUES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	

Annual Total

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may result in an indeterminable increase in Local Funds expenditures to Sheriffs that administer work release programs, to the extent that assessments currently collected for room and board from wages from inmates participating in work release programs are restricted to 33% of their gross wages. Proposed law has the effect of reducing, by 67%, the amount of wages that are withheld from an inmate participating in a work release program with the Sheriffs for costs associated with room, board, clothing, and other necessary expenses incident to his employment or placement. The exact fiscal impact to Local Funds expenditures is indeterminable, because wages paid to work release inmates are variable in nature, and it is unknown the number of inmates currently participating in a work release program with the Sheriffs, or the proportion of reduction in wages withheld relative to expenditures the Sheriffs will be required to absorb with enactment of the proposed law.

The LFO is working with Sheriffs to determine the number of inmates that may be impacted by the proposed law, relative to the reduction in wages withheld. That information will be reported as it becomes available.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

The proposed law may result in an indeterminable decrease in Local revenues to Sheriffs associated with a reduction in the amount of wages that are allowed to be withheld for inmates participating in work release programs. The exact fiscal impact to Local revenues is indeterminable, because wages paid to work release inmates are variable in nature, and it is unknown the number of inmates currently participating in a work release program with Sheriffs, or the proportion of reduction in wages withheld relative to revenues Sheriffs will no longer receive with enactment of the proposed law.

Senate

Dual Referral Rules

House

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

- 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}

Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer