BILL SUMMARY



Providing nonpartisan legal, research, and fiscal analysis services to the Minnesota Senate

S.F. No. 4006 – Department of Corrections Policy Bill

Author: Senator Ron Latz

Prepared by: Chris Turner, Fiscal Analyst (651/296-4350)

Date: March 7, 2024

Sections 1 and 11 authorize the commissioner of corrections to disclose, upon release of an offender, the offender's city and five-digit zip code to the crime victim. Under current law, the commissioner may only disclose this information to victims of a qualified domestic violence-related offense.

Section 2 clarifies the DOC's ability to obtain any data the commissioner deems necessary from any DOC-licensed facility to conduct a review of any emergency or unusual occurrence at the facility.

Section 3 amends the membership of the health care peer review committee by removing the director of health services and adding the following people:

- one or more licensed physicians from the community;
- the director of psychiatry of a contracted vendor;
- the pharmacist liaison of a contracted vendor's pharmacy vendor;
- the clinical pharmacist of a contracted vendor; and
- other ad hoc members at the discretion of the DOC medical director.

In cases of suicide or unanticipated death, a representative from the Office of Special Investigations shall be appointed the committee.

Section 4 authorizes a medical director's designee, provided they are a licensed physician, to make health care decisions for inmates who lack decision-making capacity when no other family or designated agents are available.

Section 5 eliminates the requirement that a correctional officer who uses force must be the person who can articulate the threat with specificity.

Section 6 authorizes the Supervision Release Board to meet in closed session when reviewing a victim's statement.

Section 7 strikes obsolete language that prohibits offenders with certain medical conditions from participating in the Challenge Incarceration Program (CIP) if that condition is listed by the DOC as a disqualifying condition.

Section 8 changes the DOC legislative reporting date on probation and supervision data from January 15th of each year to May 1st. Counties report local data to the DOC in April of each year. The change will provide the legislature with the DOC compiled statistics eight months earlier than current practice. The section also deletes obsolete language regarding recommended methods of coordinating the exchange of probation information.

Section 9 defines "local advisory board" for the purposes of the Community Corrections Act.

Section 10 authorizes a supervising agent or the commissioner of corrections to provide private or confidential data to a prosecutor for purposes of a petition for sentence adjustment.

Section 12 authorizes the DOC to send certifications of terms of commitment by either certified mail or by e-filing. Under current law both forms of notification are required.