



FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 16

Committee: Judiciary

Sponsor: Representative Chris England

Analyst: Peter Grogan

Date: 03/17/2023

House Bill 16 as introduced creates the eight-member Criminal Justice Policy Development Council to 1) update the inmate classification system; 2) create parole guidelines; 3) adopt a validated risk and needs assessment for felony offenders; and 4) provide quarterly reports to the Legislature beginning on October 1, 2023. This bill could increase the obligations of the various assisting agencies by an undetermined amount dependent on the cost of 1) third party contracts entered into by the council to assist in the development of these policies, as provided by this bill; and 2) expenses incurred by council members for attending meeting of the council. This bill could also increase the administrative obligations of the Department of Corrections and the Board of Pardons and Paroles to implement the systems, guidelines, and policies adopted by the council.

In addition, this bill could further increase or decrease the administrative obligations of the board to 1) use parole release guidelines in parole decisions; 2) provide an explanation when deviating from these guidelines; and 3) provide written notification to the prisoner of their right to appeal a parole denial by the board that deviated from these guidelines to the Court of Criminal Appeals, as provided by this bill.