



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-First Legislature, Second Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2002

correctional officers; arrest; unlawful imprisonment

Purpose

Authorizes detention officers in jail facilities to make arrests under certain circumstances.

Background

Detention officers work in county or municipal jail facilities, maintaining security control and custody of inmates in the facility. Their duties include observing inmate behavior, enforcing discipline, reporting observations, identifying and detecting contraband, conducting checks of inmate cells, monitoring visitors to the facility and performing booking, fingerprinting, identification and records maintenance procedures. Minimum qualifications vary, but include: 1) hold a high school diploma or General Education Development (G.E.D.) certificate; 2) be at least 18 years of age; 3) be a U.S. citizen; 4) have no felony convictions; 5) have no pattern of drug abuse; and 6) pass a background investigation and possibly a polygraph and psychological examinations. Application generally consists of multiple choice and physical fitness assessments, as well as completing a training academy.

Detention officers are not required to be certified by the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board (AzPOST), and generally don't exercise law enforcement powers. At least four states allow detention officers in jails to make arrests.

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Grants arrest authority to a detention officer who has a warrant and is acting in official capacity at a jail facility where the officer is employed.
2. Specifies such a detention officer may arrest a person who is already incarcerated in or who surrenders himself to that jail facility.
3. Defines *detention officer* as a person who is:
 - a) employed by a county, city or town;
 - b) responsible for the supervision, protection, care, custody or control of inmates in a county or municipal correctional institution; and
 - c) not an elected official, counselor, or secretarial, clerical or professionally trained personnel.

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4. Provides a defense to an unlawful imprisonment prosecution for such a detention officer.
5. Makes technical and conforming changes.
6. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

House Action

PSMRA	1/29/14	DPA	8-0-0-0
3 rd Read	2/10/14		57-2-1-0

Prepared by Senate Research
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AW/lis