

Fiscal Estimate - 2011 Session

Original Updated Corrected Supplemental

LRB Number 11-1608/1		Introduction Number AB-0077	
Description Providing meals to inmates of prisons and jails			
Fiscal Effect			
State:			
<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect			
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate			
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues	
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	
<input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	
Local:			
<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate			
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs		3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory		<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs		4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory		<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	
5. Types of Local Government Units Affected			
<input type="checkbox"/> Towns		<input type="checkbox"/> Village	
<input type="checkbox"/> Counties		<input type="checkbox"/> Others	
<input type="checkbox"/> School Districts		<input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cities			
Fund Sources Affected		Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS 20.410 (1) (a)			
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	
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		Date	
		4/21/2011	

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOC 4/21/2011

LRB Number	11-1608/1	Introduction Number	AB-0077	Estimate Type	Original
Description Providing meals to inmates of prisons and jails					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The Department of Corrections currently provides inmates three meals per day, generally between the times of 6:00 AM to 7:30 AM (Breakfast), 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM (Lunch), and 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM (Supper). Additional food items may be purchased by inmates from institution canteens, which are stores from which inmates may purchase packaged foods, cards, stamps, personal items, toiletries, and other items. Current law does not specify how many meals per day the Department must provide for prison inmates, but specifies that inmates must be treated humanely.

In FY 2010, the Department implemented a standardized meal rotation schedule which has led to better management of food costs. Listed below are DOC's average costs per meal for each of the last three fiscal years, calculated based on the value of food issued or purchased divided by the number of meals served:

FY 2009 - \$1.14

FY 2010 - \$1.04 (Implementation of standardized meal rotation)

FY 2011 - \$1.03 (Year to Date)

Under this bill, a warden or superintendent may not serve more than two meals per day to prison inmates unless a physician notifies the warden or superintendent that an inmate has a medical need for more than two meals per day.

Health Care Workload:

Currently, there are over 2,400 inmates on medical diets throughout the Department. A significant segment of this population have diabetes and other conditions which require the provision of three meals per day. A number of inmates are diabetic, but are able to self-select food in accordance with their diabetic restrictions, and are not currently on a medical diet.

It is anticipated institution health service units (HSUs) would see additional workload resulting from additional inmates appropriately requesting medical clearance for receipt of three meals per day because they could no longer manage their medical condition on two meals per day. Increased costs incurred from additional HSU staff hours would be necessary to process this additional workload.

Requiring some inmates to eat two meals per day may eventually result in the Department incurring additional health care treatment costs. According to research published in professional medical and dietetic journals, decreased meal frequency has been correlated to increased risk of cardio-vascular diseases, insulin resistance, fat deposition, as well as other health risks.

Security and Food Services Workload:

Use of either the breakfast meal time or the lunch meal time for the first of the two meals permitted under this bill would result in long periods of time without a meal. Increased duration between meals leads to fatigue, irritability, and restlessness. These food-related behavioral problems may possibly lead to hostile situations which must be managed through additional security. Additional overtime costs would be necessary for these situations. If agitated inmates become involved in physical altercations, additional medical costs may result, as well as additional workload on the judicial system should the need exist to seek outside law enforcement assistance for potential criminal charges.

To mitigate these diet related behavior problems, and ensure inmates receive adequate nutrition from two meals per day, a morning meal time separate from the existing meal times (a fourth meal time) would be needed to distribute calories more evenly throughout the day. Different menu items, or portion sizes, for those receiving two meals per day as compared to those receiving three meals per day may also be required to ensure caloric and nutritional intake is adequate. Additional food service unit staff and dining

supplies would be required for workload from the fourth meal time. Additional food supplies would be needed resulting from multiple menu items provided, increasing costs.

Decreased Revenue:

Currently, the Department receives federal revenue, administered by the Department of Public Instruction, in the form of meal reimbursement for participation in the National School Breakfast (NSBP) and National School Lunch programs (NSLP). Reimbursement is received for inmates which are youth, under the age of 21, housed at the Racine Youthful Offender Correctional Facility (RYOCF). Revenue received by the Department for this purpose is remitted to the General Fund as GPR Earned.

To receive breakfast reimbursement, regulations state the "meal shall be served at or close to the beginning of the child's day at school." Classes begin at 8:00 AM at RYOCF. It is unclear if the time of the brunch meal (fourth meal time) would be considered in compliance with this regulation.

Decreased reimbursement would also result from consolidating the breakfast and lunch meals into one meal, because reimbursement is provided on a per meal basis. In FY10, the Department received \$265,300 in federal revenue from the Department of Public Instruction as reimbursement for youth meal costs for youth incarcerated in adult facilities. Of these amounts, \$99,700 was received for breakfasts and \$165,600 was received for lunches.

Summary of State Fiscal Impact:

Because of the above factors, the fiscal impact of this legislation is anticipated to be increased state costs, although the precise increase can not be quantified at this time. It is anticipated the state would receive decreased revenue from federal sources, a potential decline of \$265,300.

Summary of Local Fiscal Impact:

This bill allows a sheriff to provide two meals per day to jail inmates at his or her discretion, unless a physician notifies the sheriff that an inmate has a medical need for more than two meals per day.

County jails would be confronted with similar issues noted above. The local fiscal impact of this legislation cannot be determined, as it is unknown at this time if any sheriffs would implement the provisions of this bill.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications