

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note**



Fiscal Note On: **HB 518** HLS 12RS 547
 Bill Text Version: **REENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 5, 2012 4:43 AM	Author: LOPINTO
Dept./Agy.: Corrections	Analyst: Matthew LaBruyere
Subject: Pardon & Parole Boards	

PARDON/PAROLE RE -\$385,220 GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1

Merges the functions and duties of the Board of Parole into the Board of Pardons and creates a committee on parole which shall be part of the Board of Pardons

Proposed legislation merges the duties, functions, powers, and training requirements of the Board of Parole into the Board of Pardons and creates a committee on parole which shall be part of the Board of Pardons, and provides for the following: the committee on parole shall consist of the following persons: 5 members of the Board of Pardons and 2 at-large appointees, appointed by the governor, who shall only serve as a member of the committee on parole and shall not serve as members of the Board of Pardons; the 2 at-large appointees shall be compensated as a member of the Board of Pardons, and shall possess at least five years experience in the field of penology, corrections, law enforcement, sociology, law, education, social work, medicine, or a combination thereof, unless any member is serving as a member of the board on Aug. 1, 2012. Proposed legislation provides that committee on parole shall be the successor in every way to the Board of Parole, including all of the obligations and debts thereof and transfers of any pending and unfinished business of the Board of Parole to proposed committee on parole.

EXPENDITURES	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	(\$385,220)	(\$385,220)	(\$385,220)	(\$385,220)	(\$385,220)	(\$1,926,100)
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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	(\$385,220)	(\$385,220)	(\$385,220)	(\$385,220)	(\$385,220)	(\$1,926,100)

REVENUES	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The proposed legislation will result in a decrease in state general fund expenditures as a result of merging the functions and duties of the Parole Board into the Pardon Board. The savings in FY 13 would be approximately \$285,220, which includes a reduction of 5 Parole Board member salaries, related benefits, and travel expenses.

Under current law the salaries for the 7 members of the Parole Board total \$317,000. The chairman is paid \$50,000, vice-chairman is paid \$47,000, and members are paid \$44,000. In addition to salaries, the total cost for related benefits in FY 11 was \$74,484. The actual amount spent in travel for FY 11 was \$87,878. To the extent related benefits and travel expenses remain static in future fiscal years, the compensation for the members of the Parole Board would be \$479,362 (\$317,000 salaries + \$74,484 related benefits + \$87,878 travel.)

The proposed legislation states that the Committee on Parole will consist of the 5 Pardon Board members and 2 at-large members that will only serve on the Committee on Parole. The 2 at-large members will be compensated the same as members of the Pardon Board, which includes a salary of \$36,000 plus related benefits and travel. For illustrative purposes, if the 2 at large members received the average related benefits and travel expenses as current Pardon Board members, each at-large member would receive \$7,491 in related benefits (\$37,456 total Pardon Board related benefits / 5 board members) and \$3,580 in travel (\$17,901 total Pardon Board travel expenses / 5 board members). The total compensation for the 2 at-large members would be \$94,142 (\$72,000 salaries + \$14,982 related benefits + \$7,160 travel).

The total savings from merging the Parole Board into the Pardon Board would be approximately \$385,220 (\$479,362 total Parole Board compensation - \$94,142 for 2 at-large members).

It should be noted that in FY 11 the Pardon Board received 667 pardon applications and heard 232 cases. Also in FY 11, the Parole Board received 2,320 parole applications and heard 354 cases. In the event the number of hearings remains static and additional meetings are needed as a result of the members of the Pardon Board, committee on parole hearing more cases, travel costs may increase and the total savings may decrease.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

<p><u>Senate</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}</p>	<p><u>Dual Referral Rules</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)1 >= \$500,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S}</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}</p>	<p><u>House</u></p> <p><i>Evan Brasseaux</i></p> <p>Evan Brasseaux Staff Director</p>
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