

ALASKA STATE SENATE

SENATOR MIKE SHOWER
SENATE FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIR

ALASKA STATE CAPITOL
ROOM 510
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1182



TERRENCE SHANIGAN, FINANCE AIDE
(907)465-6600
FAX (907) 465-4821

SENATE FINANCE / DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS SUB-COMMITTEE
SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS: SENATOR MICCICHE, SENATOR REINBOLD, SENATOR KAWASAKI

NARRATIVE CLOSE-OUT REPORT

April 17, 2019

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Senate Finance Subcommittee for the Department of Corrections submits a recommended operating budget for FY2020 to the Senate Finance Committee as follows:

FUND SOURCE	FY19 Mgt Plan	FY20 Adj Base	GOV FY20 Req	FY20 House	FY20 Sen Sub	Chg-Adj Bs to Sen	
						Over/(Under)	
UGF	291,108.0	291,108.0	272,995.1	268,930.0	271,210.2	(19,897.8)	-7%
DGF	8,542.0	8,542.0	8,542.0	9,542.0	8,542.0	-	
Total GF	299,650.0	299,650.0	281,537.1	278,472.0	279,752.2	(19,897.8)	
Other	25,309.5	25,311.6	32,044.7	32,044.7	32,044.7	6,733.1	
Federal	7,789.6	7,789.6	11,587.0	11,587.0	11,587.0	3,797.4	
Total All Funds	332,749.1	332,751.2	325,168.8	322,103.7	323,383.9	(9,367.3)	-3%
SALARY ADJUSTMENT FUND SOURCE - Informational Only							
UGF					8,697.3		
DGF					110.7		
Total GF					\$ 8,808.0		
Other					29.7		
Federal					242.7		
Total All Funds					\$ 9,080.4		
POSITIONS							
PFT							1907
PPT							0
Temp							0
Total Positions							1907

BUDGET ACTION:

The Senate Finance Budget Subcommittee for the Department of Corrections held four meetings with the Department and analyzed all of the Governor's budget transactions. Following are budget highlights.

Governor's Amended Budget Request:

- Accepted the Governor's Amended Budget Request except for these items:
 - Declined 969.6 UGF increment under population management for video court hearing institutional staffing. This was a proposal to add 10 staff PCNs.
 - Declined (6,000.0) UGF decrement under population an allocation for the Wildwood Correctional Center to close a portion of the facility that houses sentenced inmates. This included a prosed reduction of 46 PCNs.
 - Declined 837.0 UGF increment for administration support relating to Office of Information Technology (OIT) services rate.

- Sub-Committee Additions, Reductions and Changes:
 - The appropriation for out-of-state contractual for adding authorization for out-of-state beds was reduced from 17,787.5 UGF to 3,557.5 UGF.
 - The appropriation for agency unallocated reduction for prisoners moved out of institutions was reduced from (30,590.0) UGF to (22,942.5) UGF.
 - The appropriation for health and rehabilitation services request in the Governor's budget for 10,600.0 UGF was reduced to 2,650.0 UGF.
 - An increment of 1,250.0 UGF under population management for the Point MacKenzie Correctional Farm was included as a temporary increment for (Fiscal Years 2020-2021). The increment is intended to accommodate an increase in the population served at the facility by 40 inmates to expand capacity to increase staffing levels by 6 correctional officers. The increase in facility operations to include bathroom, shower, meals, and residential expansion. This includes updates to farm equipment and an RSA with the Division of Ag within the Department of Natural Resources. This is a temporary increment in order to implement the changes on a trial basis.
 - An increment increase of 5,059.4 UGF under community residential centers to increase funding to house 150 additional inmates to transition out of institutions and into community residential centers.
 - An increment increase of 438.0 UGF under community residential centers to fund to the Tlingit and Haida reentry program to supplement existing locally available options.
 - An increment increase of 1,806.8 UGF under Electronic monitoring to expand the program capacity by 150 inmates.

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BUDGET ACTION:

- Other Changes:
 - Remove the following department level wordage: "At the discretion of the Office of Management and Budget, funding may be transferred between all appropriations in the Department."
- Structural Changes
 - There were no structural changes.
- Intent Language
 - It is the intent of the legislature that the department transition 150 inmates into Community Residential Centers, and 150 eligible inmates onto Electronic Monitoring by June 30th, 2020. While leaving funding in allocations for this function, it is also the intent of the legislature that the department strive to use funds in these respective allocations. The department should provide a progress report to the legislature on January 15th, 2020.
- Conditioning Language
 - The amount appropriated by this appropriation may not be used to send more than 100 inmates to out-of-state facilities.

SUMMARY

In summary it is expressed that the intent of this legislature is the desire to house and manage all inmates, among the various classifications and status levels, physically inside the State of Alaska under direct supervision of the Alaska Department of Corrections except where specific, current contractual agreements are in place for community residential centers managed by a private party.

The committee recognizes the detrimental impact that moving inmates into private, out-of-state facilities results in and the past practice of housing inmates in such private facilities may contribute to substantial negative influences within the Alaska prison system and our communities in the past. The negative impacts are believed to have a detrimental effect on Alaskan residents and our way of life once released.

The committee recognizes the need of the Department to manage the overall prisoner population efficiently; it must have the tools and resources to do so. A tool this committee feels is necessary to have is the structure in which funding is appropriated to the department that permits managers to make resource decisions at the most local level possible through intent language and guidance from the legislature.

The committee recognizes the importance of the Wildwood Correctional Center (WWCC) and its positive fiscal and social impact on the Department of Corrections. The WWCC is a model facility that should be studied and utilized as an example for other Alaska Correctional Facilities to follow for fiscal efficiency and program effectiveness.

The committee sees opportunities partnering with tribal organizations going forward to provide supplemental services such as that proposed by Tlingit and Haida.

The intent of the legislature is opposed to the movement of inmates out-of-state and any consideration of such activity should be based on research and a well-established, selection criteria that prioritize acute medical needs and costs, length of sentence and impact to cultural and familial ties.

The committee believes expanding opportunities in established programs such as the Pt. MacKenzie Farm and studying the impacts of these programs with more qualitative and impactful measurements of success. In addition, This committee supports inter-departmental collaboration such as the one being forged between DOC and DNR in support of enhancing planning and technical support.

ATTACHED REPORTS:

The Senate Finance Subcommittee for the Department of Corrections adopts the attached reports:

- Agency Totals – FY2020 Operating Budget
- Transaction Comparison 1
- Transaction Comparison 2
- Transaction Comparison 3
- Wordage



Senator Mike Shower, Chair