

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 83RD LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 16, 2013

TO: Honorable Tan Parker, Chair, House Committee on Corrections

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB686 by Márquez (Relating to the reporting of certain information regarding inmates and the use of administrative segregation by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.),
As Introduced

The bill is expected to result in significant security and programming costs to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice; however, the actual costs are indeterminate at this time.

The bill would amend Government Code, Chapter 493, to require the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) to submit an annual report providing detailed information about its prison population and comparing a variety of factors, including recidivism, between inmates in the general population and inmates in administrative segregation.

The bill would amend Government Code, Chapter 501, requiring TDCJ to conduct a review of administrative segregation policies, to develop a plan to reduce the use of administrative segregation, and to increase the opportunities for administrative segregation offenders to participate in programs and services similar to the programs and services available to the general inmate population.

TDCJ reports the costs of additional security precautions and programming for the implementation of the plan are likely to be significant, but are indeterminate until such time as decisions are made regarding program and security changes resulting from the administrative segregation plan.

The bill would take effect immediately upon receiving a two-thirds majority vote in each house, otherwise the bill would take effect September 1, 2013.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 302 Office of the Attorney General, 696 Department of Criminal Justice

LBB Staff: UP, JN, JGA, ESi, GG, AI