Pretrial

House Judiciary Hearing - HB205 March 16, 2016

Citation vs. Arrest

Recommendation One

Sections Addressed:

- Sec.42: Presumption to cite
- Sec.43: Civil protection for officers
- Sec.44: Notice to appear 2 days
- Sec.45: Notice to appear -5 days

The Commission recommended expanding the use of citations in place of arrest for lower level non-violent offenses, with broad discretion for officer to arrest when a person presents a danger to self or others, a flight risk, or harm to property.

76% of pretrial admissions to prison are for misdemeanor charges.

56% of pretrial admissions to prison are for nonviolent misdemeanor charges.

Risk-Based Release Decision-Making

Recommendation Two

Sections Addressed:

- Sec.41: Court appearance in 24 hours
- Sec.47: Judicial review & reconsideration conditions of release
- Sec.48: Inability to pay considered
- Sec.49: Pretrial officers can arrest for violating court order
- **Sec.50:** Court appearance in 24 hours
- Sec.51: Limits judicial discretion to detain low- and moderate-risk pretrial defendants with non-violent, non-DUI misdemeanors/Class C Felony
- Sec.52: Presumption of release on OR or UB for low-risk defendants
- Sec.53: Pretrial services officer can search for alcohol
- Sec.54: Pretrial services officer can search for drugs, drug test
- Sec.56/57: Limits 3rd party custodian
- Sec.63/142: PFD garnishment

- 81% growth in the pretrial inmate population in the last decade
- 56% of pretrial admissions are for nonviolent misdemeanor charges.
- 28% of the prison population is pretrial



Defendants Staying Longer Pretrial Than In Past



Monetary Bail Leads to Detention on Low Bond Amounts

41% of Bonds Set At \$2,500 or More

Percentage of Sampled Defendants with Secured Bond Amounts, by Category



Lower Release Rates For Higher Secured Bond Amounts:

- Under \$500: 36% unable to post
- \$500-\$999: 57% unable to post
- \$1,000-\$2,499: 62% unable to post
- \$2,500 or more: 66% unable to post bond.

Risk Assessment Tool Lacking in Release Decisions

- Release Linked to Ability to Pay Rather Than Defendant's Risk
 - Pretrial risk assessment not used in decisions about whether to release or detain, or in setting conditions of release.
 - Because secured bond is ordered in the majority of cases, release is often linked to ability to pay rather than the defendant's risk of pretrial failure.

Pretrial Supervision of Higher Risk Defendants Released Pending Trial

Recommendations Three and Four

Sections Addressed:

Sec.99: Establishes pretrial services division &

pretrial services officers

Sec.152: Hearing reminders for defendants

Implement Pretrial Supervision

Minimal supervision with court date reminders

- <u>Basic supervision</u> (in-office appointments, phone calls, field visits)
- Enhanced supervision (higher frequency contacts, drug and alcohol testing, electronic monitoring)

Research shows that enhanced supervision should be focused on those who are most likely to fail pretrial.

Questions?