

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Administration and Support/ Recruitment and Retention

Operating/Capital Budget (CCS HB 69(brf sup maj fld H/S))

It is the intent of the legislature that the Department uses a portion of the funds in this allocation for temporary duty assignments of Correctional Officers to work with the Recruitment and Retention unit on development of Correctional Officer recruitment strategies and materials, outreach to potential Correctional Officer applicants, and communication and assistance during the application process. It is also the intent of the legislature that the Department submits a report to the Co-Chairs of Finance and the Legislative Finance Division no later than December 1, 2021, detailing the Correctional Officer recruitment activities and results achieved with the \$400.0 UGF increment included in the FY21 and FY22 operating budgets, as compared to the recruitment activities and results in FY15-FY20, and documenting the involvement of Correctional Officers in FY21 and FY22 recruitment efforts.

PARTIAL COMPLIANCE

DOC continues to utilize Correctional Officers in recruitment efforts. This includes the temporary duty assignment to the Centralized Recruitment Unit to assist with all recruitment efforts. A report summary of all efforts and activities will be submitted by the December 1, 2021 deadline.

Legislative Fiscal Analyst Comment: The Department provided a report on December 1, 2021 that thoroughly details the agency's recruitment efforts and results in FY21 and FY22, though it does not draw a comparison to recruitment activities that occurred between FY15 and FY20, resulting in a determination of partial compliance.

Community Residential Centers

Operating/Capital Budget (CCS HB 69(brf sup maj fld H/S)) and Mental Health (CCS HB 71)

It is the intent of the legislature that the Department of Corrections renegotiate Community Residential Center contracts to use a flat rate, with the objective of obtaining a lower overall rate. The Department shall provide a report to the Finance Co-Chairs and the Legislative Finance Division no later than December 1, 2021 detailing this effort.

NON-COMPLIANCE

DOC continues to review all Community Residential Center contracts annually to ensure lowest pricing based on offender population and utilization of services. A report summary will be submitted by the December 1, 2021 deadline.

Legislative Fiscal Analyst Comment: The agency did not renegotiate Community Residential Center contracts to use a flat rate and explains that if the objective is a lower overall rate, then the tiered-cost approach is less expensive given the lower occupancy rates. The Department did not submit a report describing this analysis. CRCs have operated between 40-60% capacity in the 2021 calendar year, which is an increase over recent years, making the tiered-cost system slightly more cost-effective than when CRC counts were lower. In the tiered-cost system, the rates for occupants are significantly higher when the population is lower, which front-loads certain costs for the CRC operators, and additional occupants are charged at increasingly lower rates. In a flat rate cost agreement, (currently used for two of the seven CRCs: Glacier in Juneau, and the recently re-opened Parkview in Anchorage), the State pays to reserve a set number of beds in the facility regardless of occupancy levels.