

Senate Finance / Department of Corrections Subcommittee
Subcommittee Members: Sen. Kiehl, Sen. Kawasaki, Sen. Wilson, & Sen. Tobin

Narrative Closeout Report
April 12, 2023

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Senate Finance Budget Subcommittee for the Department of Corrections submits the following FY24 recommendations to the Senate Finance Committee:

Fund Group: (dollars are in thousands)	Senate Sub
Unrestricted General Funds (UGF)	\$366,272.2
Designated General Funds	\$14,355.5
Other Funds	\$22,343.6
Federal Funds	\$17,389.6
TOTAL FUNDS	\$420,360.9

Positions:	
Permanent Full-time	2109
Permanent Part Time	0
Temporary	0
TOTAL POSITIONS	2109

BUDGET ACTIONS:

The Senate Finance Budget Subcommittee for the Department of Corrections reviewed the Governor's FY24 budget request. The following are highlights of the Subcommittee's action.

Governor's Amended Budget Request:

The Senate Finance Subcommittee accepted all of the Governor's requested changes.

Subcommittee Additions, Reductions and Changes

- Add one-time funding for inmate transportation due to the ongoing construction at Lemon Creek Correctional Center (IncOTI \$525.0 UGF.) The operating budget co-chair asked the subcommittee to mitigate large supplemental budget requests in the Department of Corrections by anticipating actual costs. Structural work on LCCC will not finish before the end of the fiscal year. This amount matches the amount in the FY 23 supplemental to get inmates to and from Juneau when necessary. This is accompanied by conditional language listed below.

- Add funding for a one-year contract for an inmate safety and wellness coordinator (IncOTI \$175.0 UGF.) Department staff are commonly charged with the well-being of Alaskans who are injured, medically complicated, mentally ill, under the influence of dangerous substances, or all four. This contractor will develop plans for each institution covering intake and other procedures to prevent and reduce inmate deaths.

Organizational Changes:

The Senate Finance Subcommittee separated the anticipated additional funding for overtime and incentive compensation. This will let the Finance Committee and the public better track the costs of overtime due to vacancies.

Intent or Conditional Language

The Senate Finance Subcommittee added language restricting the use of the one-time funding for inmate transportation: "The one-time funding for travel is only for inmate transportation due to the ongoing construction at Lemon Creek Correctional Center."

The Senate Finance Subcommittee added language directing DOC to develop a plan to maintain and replace prison industry equipment: "It is the intent of the legislature that the Department of Corrections create a business plan to ensure the maintenance and replacement of equipment and infrastructure necessary for prison industry programs that does not rely on state general funds."

Other Subcommittee Recommendations

The Senate Finance Subcommittee recommends adding \$1,000.0 UGF to the Recidivism Reduction Grants appropriation for supportive housing assistance for reentry. The state's eight reentry coalitions help inmates get housing, jobs, and services when they leave the Department of Corrections' custody. Their work helps Alaskans successfully return to life outside of Department of Corrections without reoffending. Housing remains one of the biggest struggles for people returning from institutions. This funding helps reentry coalitions expand their work reducing crime.

ATTACHED REPORTS

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

1. Agency Totals
2. Trans Compare 1: Adjusted Base+ to Senate Subcommittee
3. Trans Compare 2: Gov Amend+ to Senate Subcommittee
4. Wordage

Respectfully Submitted,

Senator Jesse Kiehl