

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 263 (Chairman, Judicial Proceedings Committee)
(By Request – Departmental – Public Safety and Correctional Services)
Judicial Proceedings

State Correctional Facilities - Release from Confinement

This departmental bill provides that, when a date of release from confinement is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the Division of Correction (DOC) and the Patuxent Institution must release the inmate on the first preceding day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill's changes would lead to some operational efficiencies for DOC with some potential attendant savings in overtime costs.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Analysis

Current Law: Whenever a date of release from confinement in a State correctional facility is a Sunday or legal holiday, the inmate must be released on the preceding day.

Background: Under the existing statutory language, inmates with release dates of Sunday are released on Saturday. However, according to the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, services involving transportation, accounting, property

management, and bed assignment are available only during regular business hours Monday through Friday.

The bill's changes would not affect the release functions of the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services,
Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 25, 2003
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