

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill requires the commissioner of administration to issue a request for proposals for operation of correctional facilities for state inmates.

- 1 **Duties of commissioner of corrections.** Permits the commissioner of corrections to place a committed person in either a privately-run facility or a facility operated by the Department of Corrections. Current law only permits the commissioner to place a person in a Department of Corrections facility.
- 2 **Request for proposals; prison privatization.** Requires the commissioner of administration to issue a request for proposals related to the operation of correctional facilities for persons committed to the commissioner of corrections. The commissioner of administration is required to authorize one or more vendors for this service by November 1, 2011. The Department of Corrections is permitted to submit a proposal, but the proposal may not be given greater weight than proposals from private vendors.

Certain minimum standards for a proposal to qualify for consideration are provided, including a requirement that the cost for housing prisons be at least 5 percent below the current per diem of the Department of Corrections. Standards for calculating per diem rates are specified.

A list of factors that must be considered by the commissioner of administration in issuing the request for proposals is provided in the bill, including required consultation with the commissioner of corrections, the commissioner of human services, and the executive director of the sentencing guidelines commission.

- 3 **Displaced correctional employees.** Requires displaced correctional employees to be given priority in filling vacant positions in the Department of Corrections and at secure facilities operated by the Department of Human Services.