

# OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-6875

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF AN IDENTITY CARD OR MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENSE TO A PERSON BEING DISCHARGED FROM A CORRECTIONAL FACILITY.

## **OFA Fiscal Note**

### **State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Correction, Dept.	GF - Cost	368,974	378,198
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits <sup>1</sup>	GF - Cost	157,995	161,945
Motor Vehicle Dept.	TF - Cost	Up to 25,000	Up to 25,000
Motor Vehicle Dept.	TF - Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund; TF=Transportation Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

The bill requires the Department of Correction (DOC) and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to ensure incarcerated individuals have a state identity card or driver's license when they are released from a correctional facility resulting in the costs described below.

To meet the requirements of the bill the DOC will have to hire six new employees (five correctional counselor's and one financial clerk) for a cost to the DOC of \$368,974 in FY 24 and \$378,198 in FY 25, along with

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<sup>1</sup>The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 42.82% of payroll in FY 24.

associated fringe benefit costs of \$157,995 in FY 24 and \$161,945 in FY 25. The bill requires the DOC to:

- Determine if each new inmate has an identity card or driver's license and when it expires.
- Determine the documentation needed 24 and 13 months before the discharge date for an inmate and facilitate the process by providing forms, fees, waivers, mailing, etc.
- Make a written licensing exam available to any person seeking a driver's license.

Currently, DOC and DMV must ensure an inmate possess an identity card or license if they request one, qualify for one, and pay the associated fees. In FY 22 the DOC helped over 1,300 inmates secure a driver's license or a non-driver ID and approximately 8,000 inmates were discharged from correctional facilities.

The bill results in a cost to DMV of up to \$25,000 for making any required driver's license exams available (the road test is exempt from the bill's requirements) and related processing and issuance costs. The cost would be dependent on implementation decisions made by DMV and DOC and on the number of incarcerated people needing written testing, such as first-time license seekers and those with licenses expired for more than two years. The bill also results in a revenue gain to the Special Transportation Fund for additional ID card and licensing fees received. It is unknown how many additional incarcerated people will apply for IDs and driver's licenses under the bill.

### ***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation and the number of incarcerated people requesting ID cards and licenses.