

Legislative Fiscal Bureau

Fiscal Note

HF 402 - Voting Rights (LSB 2576 YH)

Analyst: Beth Lenstra (Phone: (515) 281-6301) (beth.lenstra@legis.state.ia.us)

Fiscal Note Version — New

Requested by Representative J. Scott Raecker

Description

House File 402 makes restoration of the right to register to vote and to vote automatic upon the completion of a person's release from probation, parole, work release, or confinement and upon the person making full restitution, including any community service requirement. The Bill does not apply to any person who has been convicted of a Class A felony and whose sentence has been commuted by the Governor. House File 402 imposes notification requirements on the Department of Corrections, Community-Based Corrections (CBC) District Departments, and the Clerks of Court.

Assumptions

1. Charge, conviction, and sentencing patterns and trends will not change over the projection period.
2. Prisoner length of stay, revocation rates, and other corrections policies and practices will not change over the projection period.
3. The law will be come effective July 1, 2003. A lag effect of six months is assumed, from the law's effective date to the date of first entry of affected offenders into the correctional system.
4. This information is provided from the Justice Data Warehouse, which consists of court information and Community-Based Corrections (CBC) data through FY 2002.
5. Approximately 7,200 people discharge their sentence annually in Iowa. It is not known how many people pay all restitution, including court costs, fines, supervision fees, community service, etc.
6. The Judicial Branch will incur additional programming costs for the Iowa Court Information System, its automated database. Staff in the Clerk of Court offices will have additional duties.
7. There is minimal impact on the Secretary of State's Office, the Department of Corrections, and the CBC District Departments.

Fiscal Impact

Due to insufficient information, the fiscal impact of creating additional duties under HF 402 cannot be estimated. However, the Judicial Branch's one-time cost for additional computer programming is estimated to be \$15,000. Ongoing annual costs for the Clerk of Court offices are estimated to be \$4.00 per notice to each person who has completed his/her correctional sentence and fully paid all charges.

Sources

Department of Human Rights, Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Division

Department of Corrections

Judicial Branch

Office of the Secretary of State

/s/ Dennis C Prouty

March 18, 2003

The fiscal note and correctional impact statement for this bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and pursuant to Section 2.56, Code of Iowa. Data used in developing this fiscal note and correctional impact statement are available from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau to members of the Legislature upon request.
