

**Senate Study Bill 3137 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON WEBSTER)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act requiring cost-benefit analyses of county jail projects,  
2 and including effective date provisions.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 356.38 County jail cost-benefit  
2 analysis — study.

3 1. Before a county approves a project to build a new jail,  
4 renovate fifty percent or more of the existing jail property,  
5 or expand the grounds or structure of the jail, a county shall  
6 conduct a study to determine the cost difference between the  
7 project and contracting with another county to utilize the  
8 other county's jail facilities.

9 2. The study shall include all of the following metrics:

10 a. The average monthly total prisoners booked into the  
11 current jail, including the following information:

12 (1) County residents booked into the jail compared to  
13 noncounty residents booked into the jail.

14 (2) Those booked at the current jail compared with those  
15 needing to be booked at a jail in a different county but whose  
16 case originated in the county.

17 b. The average food and medical costs per prisoner per year.

18 c. The average annual staffing costs.

19 d. The average annual equipment costs including  
20 depreciation, replacement costs, and required planning costs  
21 for the following five years.

22 e. The average costs for transporting prisoners to and from  
23 the jail.

24 f. A list of surrounding counties' jails including the  
25 following information:

26 (1) The rated capacities of each jail.

27 (2) The actual capacity of each jail.

28 3. The study shall be accessible to the public and available  
29 for review upon request and at each meeting at which the county  
30 considers the measure of the project.

31 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate  
32 importance, takes effect upon enactment.

33

EXPLANATION

34 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
35 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

1 This bill requires a county to conduct a study before  
2 approving a project to build a new jail, renovate 50 percent  
3 or more of the existing jail property, or expand the grounds  
4 or structure of the jail. The study must compare the cost  
5 difference between the project and contracting with another  
6 county to utilize the other county's jail facilities.

7 The study shall include all of the following metrics: (1)  
8 the average monthly total prisoners booked into the current  
9 jail, including county residents, noncounty residents, those  
10 booked at the current jail, and those needing to be booked at  
11 a jail in a different county but whose case originated in the  
12 county; (2) the average food and medical costs per prisoner per  
13 year; (3) the average annual staffing costs; (4) the average  
14 annual equipment costs including depreciation, replacement  
15 costs, and required planning costs for the following five  
16 years; (5) the average costs for transporting prisoners to and  
17 from the jail; and (6) a list of surrounding counties' jails  
18 including the rated capacities of each jail and the actual  
19 capacity of each jail.

20 The study shall be made accessible to the public and  
21 available for review upon request and at each meeting at which  
22 the county considers the measure of the project.

23 The bill takes effect upon enactment.