

## **Texas Department of Criminal Justice**

Summary of the FY 2012-13 General Appropriations Bill as Introduced, House Version

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### ***Statement from Executive Director Brad Livingston***

*The House version of the general appropriations bill was filed on Wednesday, January 19, 2011, and we have quickly prepared a short summary of the proposed reductions specific to TDCJ. The general appropriations bill is typically filed in both the Texas House of Representatives and the Texas Senate, and we will prepare a similar summary of the Senate version when it becomes available.*

*It is important to remember the bill as introduced is only the starting point for budget deliberations occurring during the legislative session. This agency will work closely with members of the legislature and the Governor's Office throughout the next five months to ensure they have accurate information regarding the impact of various reductions on operations and staff. Final decisions regarding appropriations for the FY 2012 – 2013 biennium will only be made after intensive review by legislators and numerous opportunities for input in the budget process.*

*Of more immediate impact are budget reductions during the current fiscal year. Pursuant to the direction given all state agencies, we are continuing to identify further reductions to FY 2011 spending, and will provide more information regarding measures to reduce current spending as soon as possible.*

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Based on a preliminary review of the Bill as Introduced, the following summarizes areas of significant operational impact. NOTE: All agency operations and programs were reduced. The bill as filed would eliminate over 2,000 positions. The reduction in probation funding would also eliminate staff positions in local Community Supervision and Corrections Department.

### **PROBATION:**

- Eliminates funding for misdemeanor probation supervision and reduces the felony probation formula funding per diem to approximately \$1.40, based on the LBB June 2010 population projections
- Reductions in treatment/diversion program initially funded by the 80th Legislature include the elimination of 800 probation residential treatment beds and program funding for medically targeted substance abuse treatment, and a reduction of one-half (\$2.5 million annually) for probation outpatient substance abuse treatment.
- Excludes funding required for the biennialization of the FY 2010-11 approved pay raise for community supervision officers and direct care staff
- Elimination of program funding for the Harris County Community Corrections Facility and the Battering Intervention and Prevention Program and substantial funding reductions to Treatment Alternatives to Incarceration Program

### **TCOOMMI:**

- Reduces funding levels for mental health services and continuity of care for adult offenders and eliminates funding for juvenile offender mental health services

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### **INCARCERATION & TREATMENT:**

- Directs the agency to close the Central Unit no later than September 1, 2011
- Reduces staffing and funding for core operational areas within the incarceration function (such as correctional unit support staff, utilities, maintenance, and agriculture operations)
- Excludes funding required for the biennialization of the FY 2010-11 approved pay raise for correctional officers and unit staff
- Freezes the salaries of all correctional officers, ranking correctional officers, and food service and laundry managers, at a rate not to exceed their salary as of August 2011
- Reduces funding for over 1,100 substance abuse treatment slots
- Reduces funding for adult offender release payments by 50%
- Eliminates funding for approximately 2,000 beds in Contract Facilities
- Eliminates program funding for Academic/Vocational Training for offenders
- Eliminates staffing and funding for Project Re-Integration of Offenders (RIO), the chaplaincy program and reentry transitional coordinators and reduces funding for sex offender treatment program
- Reduces funding levels for offender Psychiatric Care, Unit Care, Hospital Care, and Pharmacy, and would eliminate staffing and program funding of the Correctional Managed Healthcare Committee.
- Provides no general obligation bond funding for major facility repairs in FY 2012-13

### **PAROLE:**

- Reduces staffing and funding for nearly 100 parole officers and parole support staff
- Eliminates funding for approximately 550 halfway house and intermediate sanction facility beds
- Excludes funding required for the biennialization of the FY 2010-11 approved pay raise for parole officers
- Freezes the salaries of all parole officers at a rate not to exceed their salary as of August 2011

### **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OPERATIONS:**

- Eliminates staffing and program funding for the Victim Services Division
- Reduces staffing and funding levels for all other administrative and support functions (such as Central Administration, Information Technology, Office of Inspector General, State Counsel for Offenders, and Health Services)