

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

123rd General Assembly of Ohio

BILL:	Am. Sub. H.B. 62	DATE:	June 23, 1999
STATUS:	As Passed by the Senate	SPONSOR:	Rep. Coughlin
LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT REQUIRED:	No — No local cost		
CONTENTS:	Codifies existing practice governing the receipt and retention of specified inflammatory materials and other types of materials by prisoners in state correctional institutions		

State Fiscal Highlights

- The bill codifies existing regulations and practice of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. No changes in the practice are proposed. There are no fiscal effects on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on local governments.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Provisions of the Bill

The bill codifies the current practice of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) governing the receipt of inflammatory material, including material of a sexually explicit nature. Specifically, the bill requires the wardens and director of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction to adopt consistent rules and regulations governing the form, medium, and quantity of material permitted of each prisoner in a particular institution. The Director of DRC also is required to establish a standard for determining whether material is prohibited inflammatory material, in accordance with the obscenity standards determined by the U.S. Supreme Court and the standard established for material deemed harmful to juveniles in ORC 2907.01. In-coming material that is determined under these regulations to be prohibited inflammatory material will be withheld from prisoners. The bill includes provision for an appeal process at the institutional level and to DRC's Central Office Publication Screening Committee.

Fiscal Effects

The bill will not create any new or additional costs for the state because it codifies existing DRC practice. No additional staff will be needed and no significant additional procedural requirements are mandated. Additionally, because the bill only addresses the handling of certain materials by state correctional institutions, it will have no direct effect on local governments.



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