

HCS HB 303 -- PRISON CANTEEN FUNDS (Hansen)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Corrections and Public Institutions

This bill specifies that the Chief Administrative Officer of any correctional center may, with the approval of the Director of the Department of Corrections, establish and operate a canteen or commissary for the use and benefit of the offenders. The bill specifies provisions that shall apply for all money collected and expended for a canteen or commissary before August 28, 2019.

The bill establishes in the State Treasury the "Inmate Canteen Fund," and it specifies terms and conditions for the fund, including that the State Treasurer shall be the custodian of the fund and that money in the fund must be used to collect all revenue and pay operating expenses of the inmate canteens. On August 28, 2019, the unexpended balance in any inmate canteen fund shall be transferred from the Canteen Fund established prior to August 28, 2019, to the Canteen Fund established after August 28, 2019, and all canteen funds established prior to August 28, 2019, will be abolished.

The bill also requires the Director of the Department of Corrections to ensure that feminine hygiene products are available to offenders for free while the offenders are incarcerated and in quantities that are appropriate for each offender's needs.