

HB 1072 -- COST OF INCARCERATING OFFENDERS

SPONSOR: Windham

This bill specifies that the Director of the Department of Corrections must notify each prosecuting and circuit attorney in the state of an estimate of the average cost per day to incarcerate an offender. The estimate must also be posted on the department's website.

Additionally, during parole hearings, the Parole Board must estimate the expected cost to the state of having the offender serve the remainder of his or her sentence.

Finally, if a prosecutor requests or recommends a term of incarceration in jail or prison, the prosecutor must include the expected daily cost of incarceration. If an offender is likely to be incarcerated in jail, the prosecutor will be responsible for obtaining the estimate for the daily incarceration rate. If the offender is likely to be incarcerated in prison, the prosecutor will rely on the department's estimate. Upon sentencing, the court must enter a finding of the expected cost of incarceration and the finding must be included in the docket entries that are made available to the public on the court's website.