

SB 844 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

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Meeting Dates: 3/28, 4/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes Department of Corrections (DOC) to collect portion of certain moneys in inmate trust account for transitional fund and payment of court-ordered financial obligations. Specifies procedures for collection and disbursement of moneys. Defines key terms. Directs Department of Justice and Judicial Department to provide accounting of court-ordered financial obligations to DOC.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Modeled after program in Minnesota
- Average amount of money in an inmate trust account
- How the tier repayment system works

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 *Clarifies that fees include court-appointed attorney fees imposed in criminal action.*

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 844 creates procedures for the Department of Corrections (DOC) to collect certain moneys from an inmate's trust account for a transitional fund and payment of court-ordered financial obligations. It defines key terms, such as eligible moneys. It specifies the percentage of funds that DOC may collect from an inmate's trust account and how those funds are dispersed, including establishing a priority tier system for payment of court-ordered financial obligations. SB 844 directs the Department of Justice (DOJ) and Judicial Department (department) to provide DOC with an accounting of each inmate's court-ordered financial obligations. DOJ and the department are also required to apply the money received from DOC to the inmate's court-ordered financial obligations. SB 844 allows DOC, DOJ and the department to create subaccounts for the moneys. These procedures are operative June 30, 2018 but DOC, DOJ and department can take necessary action prior to the operative date.