

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 15: Department of Corrections Offsite Health Care

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Public Safety Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Manning

The Public Safety Subcommittee heard a request from the Department of Corrections on the costs associated with providing off-site specialty health care to adults in custody.

When adults in custody require medical care that exceeds the ability of the Department of Corrections to provide on-site services in prison clinics and infirmaries, they are scheduled to be transported to off-site hospitals, surgery centers, or specialty providers.

In 2024, a significant backlog of off-site care needs was revealed, resulting in agency leadership changes and legislative investment in the 2025 session for schedulers and transport personnel. While the changes have been successful in reducing the backlog, costs have increased as patients are seen and treated.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means recommend including a one-time increase of \$14,352,000 General Fund for the Department of Corrections in a budget reconciliation bill during the 2026 legislative session for the cost of off-site health care.