

HOUSE BILL 560: Public Safety Reform.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee: Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate Date: June 23, 2022 Introduced by: Reps. Boles, A. Jones, Logan, McNeill Prepared by: Susan Sitze Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: House Bill 560 would make changes to various laws related to public safety.

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1 would authorize the Secretary of Public Safety to assign probation officers to perform additional duties during a declared state of emergency or a natural disaster. This section would become effective October 1, 2022.

Section 2 would authorize the Post-Release Supervision and Parole Commission to issue orders of temporary or conditional revocation of post-release supervision and parole subjecting supervisees and parolees to arrest and require those orders to be entered into the Criminal Justice Law Enforcement Automated Data System (CJLEADS). This section would become effective October 1, 2022.

Section 3 would establish the Continuously Operating Reference Station (CORS) Fund as a special revenue fund consisting of General Fund appropriations, gifts, donations, grants, devises, fees, and monies contributed by State and non-State entities for the operation, maintenance and expansion of the North Carolina CORS/Real Time Network operated by the NC Geodetic Survey. This section would become effective July 1, 2022.

Section 4 would amend the requirement that the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety do a damage assessment when the Governor declares a state of emergency to also include states of emergency declared by a municipality or county. This section would be effective when it becomes law and apply to states of emergency declared on or after that date.

Section 5 would amend the privilege provided to peer counselors for law enforcement to include all emergency personnel officers, defined as firefighters, search and rescue, or emergency medical services personnel. This section would be effective when it becomes law and apply to communications made on or after that date.

Section 6 would exempt inmates under the jurisdiction of the Department of Public Safety from barber licensing requirements. This section would be effective when it becomes law and apply to actions performed on or after that date.

Section 7 would increase the amount of allowable expenses related to funeral, cremation, and burial under the Crime Victims Compensation Fund to \$10,000. This section would become effective August 1, 2022, and apply to expenses incurred on or after that date.

Section 8 would amend the controlling conditions for a person on post-release supervision to provide that they must submit to warrantless searches by a post-release supervision officer of the supervisee's person and of the supervisee's vehicle and premises while the supervisee is present for purposes reasonably related

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to the post-release supervision. This section would be effective when it becomes law and apply to searches on or after that date.

Section 9 would authorize the Director of the Crime Victims Compensation Commission to utilize funds to promote the mission of the Commission through outreach awareness measures and require a summary of those measures to be included in the annual report to the General Assembly.

Section 10 would increase the total amount of compensation payable for economic loss by the Crime Victims Compensation Fund to \$45,000.

Section 11 would authorize the Department of Public Safety to use no more than \$500,000 in nonrecurring funds from the surplus funds in the Crime Victims Compensation Fund to establish and implement an online application process for claimants seeking compensation from the Fund. This section would be effective when it becomes law and expire June 30, 2024.

Section 12 would extend the use of time-limited private protective security services from August 1, 2023 to January 1, 2024.

Section 13 would increase the maximum allowable inmate wage from \$3.00 per day to \$5.00 per day and allow the Secretary of Public Safety to specifically approve an amount higher than \$5.00 per day for inmates working for Correction Enterprises.

Section 14 would allow the State Capitol Police and the Division of Emergency Management to purchase their own vehicles without going through the Department of Administration motor fleet.

Section 15 would authorize Correction Enterprises to market and sell products to any federal agencies at sites within North Carolina.

Section 16 would repeal the requirement that any person working in an emergency management agency take an oath.

Section 17 would direct the Department of Public Safety, the Office of State Budget and Management, and the Office of the State Controller to establish and certify the budget for the new Department of Adult Correction.

Sections 18 and 19 make technical corrections to statutes that reflect the creation of the new Department of Adult Correction on January 1, 2023. These sections become effective January 1, 2023.

Section 20 would make wardens of adult corrections facilities exempt from certain provisions of the State Human Resources Act.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Except as otherwise provided, this act would be effective when it becomes law.