

House Research Act Summary

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Overview

This law allows a county board to require an offender convicted of a crime and confined in a local correctional facility to pay the cost of the offender's room, board, clothing, medical, dental, and other correctional services. The law authorizes use of any available means of debt collection in collecting costs under this section. The law also allows for waiver of the costs in certain situations and requires restitution to be paid before costs unless the offender is making satisfactory restitution payments, in which case costs may be collected at the same time.

- Inmate payment of room and board.** Allows a county board to require an offender convicted of a crime and confined in a county jail, workhouse, or correctional or work farm to pay the cost of the offender's room, board, clothing, medical, dental, and other correctional services. Requires the board to establish a schedule for charging for these services. Allows the costs to be collected at any time while the offender is under sentence or after sentence has been discharged. Provides that, during the period of confinement, the costs may be deducted from any money possessed by the offender or any money deposited with the local correctional or law enforcement agency on the offender's behalf. Allows for use of any civil means of debt collection to collect debts under this section.

Allows the chief executive officer of the local correctional agency or sheriff to waive payment of costs if the offender does not have the ability to pay costs, payment would create undue hardship for the offender or the offender's immediate family, the prospects for payment are poor, or there are extenuating circumstances justifying waiver of the costs.

Specifies that, if the offender has been ordered to pay restitution, then restitution shall be paid before payment of costs under this section, unless the offender is making reasonable restitution payments, in which case costs may be collected at the same time.

