

Budget Issues in Public Safety

Managing Growing Prison Populations; State Police Budget Initiatives

Presentation to House Appropriations Committee

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Prison Population Forecast

State responsible offender population is projected to grow by 6,700 by 2013

- 2007 (actual) 38,007
- 2008 39,347
- 2009 40,305
- 2010 41,292
- 2011 42,399
- 2012 43,559
- 2013 44,744

New Prison Construction

- Forecast will require construction of one new prison each year for next 6 years
- New 1,000 bed medium security prison costs \$100 million to construct
- Once opened, it costs \$25 million per year to operate
- FY08 DOC operating appropriation is currently \$1.025 billion
- Proposed budget increases appropriation to \$1.1 billion in FY09

Jail Population Forecast

- 2007 local responsible population was 20,703
- As of June, 2007, jails also held 5,980 state responsible offenders
- Approximately 2,500 of these were considered “out of compliance”
- (As of January 18, 2008, out of compliance numbers had dropped to 1,637 as recently constructed prisons have opened and filled)
- Local responsible population is expected to grow an average of 4.8% per year for the next 6 years – average of 1,100 per year

Prison Releases

Of all inmates released in calendar year 2006,
instant offenses for which committed:

- 28.3% for violent offense
- 22.7% for drug offense
- 49% for non-violent offense

(Those committed for non-violent offenses may have a
prior conviction for a violent offense)

New Commitments

- Almost 13,100 new prison commitments in calendar 2006
- 42% had been in prison at some time in the past
- 46% were probation violators (9.5% technical; remainder committed new crime)

Reducing Recidivism

- If we reduce recidivism we can reduce growth in the prison and jail populations
- Reentry programming can reduce reoffending
- If we can develop appropriate alternative sanctions for technical probation violators we can reduce growth in prison and jail populations
 - Without putting the public at risk

Recidivism

- Virginia DOC measures recidivism as the percentage of inmates released in a year who are recommitted to DOC within 3 years
- Virginia's rate is under 29%
- 30 states measure recidivism this way
- Virginia had 8th lowest rate among those 30 states

New/Expanded Reentry Programs

- Expanded DCE vocational and life skills
- Transitional community therapeutic residential programs
- Cognitive based pre-release programs (Southampton - women; Powhatan – men)
- Dillwyn Transition Cooperative transitional program
- Jail based reentry
- PREPS (Buckingham) – preparing for release
- VASAVOR – Fairfax and Newport News community programming for violent offenders who complete their sentences
- VCCW (women’s) prerelease program
- Wallens Ridge transitional unit
- DOC Community Mental Health positions
- Specialized transition coordinators – DOC and DCE
- Career Readiness Certificate program (DCE)
- Community-based pilot reentry council programs – Local DSS agencies lead
- And other Evidence Based Practices efforts...

Improving Data

- Need up to date, accessible data to assess needs and monitor effectiveness
- DOC, DCJS, Sentencing Commission, DJJ working together to develop standard cross matches for earlier data on rearrest, reconviction and recommitment – for prisons and jails
- DOC developing new automated system to track inmates and probates/parolees

Prisoner Reentry Amendments

- **Transitional P&P Officers** - \$856K (09) + \$1.1 million (FY10) GF; 10 positions [Specialized probation officers to work with inmates near time of release to prepare them for going home to Tidewater and Richmond, assess service needs and plan for service delivery.]
- **Prison Transition Centers** - \$596K (09) + \$761K (10); 12 positions [Establish three 100 bed units in existing prisons for inmates within 12 months of release for intensive cognitive, treatment, socialization, and life skills programming.]

Reentry Amendments (Continued)

- **Violator Center** - \$178K (09) + \$236K (10); 4 positions [establish, in existing facility, a 100 bed unit for housing technical violators. Judges could commit offenders to this program for 6-12 months; would include intensive cognitive and behavioral therapy. This option provides judges with a higher-end alternative sanction, with treatment, prior to revoking probation.]
- **Language** – New prison in Charlotte County would include at least one dormitory housing unit for transition and/or technical violators.
- **Language** – DOC would be able to place violators, who volunteer, into underutilized detention and diversion centers as high-end sanction prior to returning him to court. Judge and Sentencing Commission would be notified of all such placements.

Reentry Amendments (Continued)

- **Language** – Pilot program; work with Supreme Court to allow judges to impose sentence for non-violent offenses involving drug use, and stipulate that DOC place him/her into therapeutic community style substance abuse program. Upon satisfactory behavior and completion of 18 month+ program, judge may opt to suspend remainder of sentence and place offender into probation.
- **Expand community based programs to divert individuals with mental health needs from jails** (includes aftercare for those released from jails) - \$3 million per year (DMHMRSAS).
- **Support for 5 local reentry pilot collaborative programs** - \$500K per year (DSS).

Housing Out-of-State Prisoners

- Addressing need for budget reductions
- Generate \$19 million per year next biennium by charging to allow other states/federal government to house offenders in Virginia prisons
- Requires DOC to continue to operate over 900 “temporary emergency” additional bed added in past to reduce jail backlog – were to be included only until new prison construction was completed (will now continue for additional 2 years)

Out-of-State Prisoners (Continued)

- Interest expressed by 2 jurisdictions for total of 500 inmates – working with their governing bodies
- Interest from ICE – Homeland Security budget passed by Congress, but awaiting specific breakdown of budget for ICE

State Police Fuel Costs

- Increased fuel costs
 - \$2.4 million for FY2008 (Caboose Bill);
 - \$2.7 million for FY2009

Replacement of Helicopters

- Language to authorize VSP to initiate the purchase of two helicopters (Lynchburg and Abingdon)
- Existing funding for debt service will cover new debt beginning with 2010 delivery

Enhance Highway Safety Enforcement

- Addition of 10 new trooper positions
 - \$1.4 million in FY2009
 - \$843,360 in FY2010
- Relocate 25 positions from inspection program to highways
 - Modify process for visiting and inspecting Licensed Inspection Stations

Meeting Needs with OxyContin Forfeiture Funding

- Overview of OxyContin case
 - ❑ Joint Task Force included US Attorney for Western District of Virginia; Attorney General of Virginia; FBI; DEA; VSP; West Virginia State Police; and Local Police
 - ❑ VSP share of settlement was \$44.2 million
 - ❑ Restrictions on use of funding

OxyContin Settlement (Continued)

- Replace or improve central criminal repositories
 - \$700,000 in FY2009; \$1.5 million in FY2010
- ❖ Data bases support state, local and federal law enforcement operating in Virginia 24/7
 - Sex Offender Registry
 - AFIS
 - Firearms Transaction Processing
 - Tactical Intelligence
 - Virginia Criminal Information Network

OxyContin Settlement (Continued)

- Replacement of Criminal History System - \$2.4 million in FY2009; \$3.3 million in FY2010
- Enhance Incident Based Reporting System - \$800,000 in FY2009; \$400,000 in FY2010
- Enhance STARS – additional equipment not previously funded - \$2.2 million in FY2010
- Equip forensic laboratory - \$1.0 million in FY2009
- Develop Virginia Intelligence Management System - \$8.5 million in FY2009

OxyContin Settlement Capital Outlay

- Construct Public Safety Driver Training Facility at Ft. Pickett – capital outlay appropriation of \$21.4 million for biennium
- Construct State Police Garage – to service all state vehicles operating STARS radios - \$2.0 million for biennium