

## North Carolina Department of Correction

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Beverly Eaves Perdue Governor Alvin W. Keller, Jr. Secretary

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Senator Marc Basnight Senator Charles W. Albertson Senator Charlie S. Dannelly Senator Linda Garrou Senator Edward W. Jones Senator Eleanor Kinnaird Senator John J. Snow, Jr.

Senator John J. Snow, Jr. Senator A. B. Swindell, IV Representative Joe Hackney

Representative Alma S. Adams Representative Martha B. Alexander Representative Alice L. Bordsen Representative James W. Crawford, Jr.

Representative R. Phillip Haire Representative Margaret M. Jeffus Representative Jimmy L. Love, Sr. Representative Henry M. Michaux, Jr.

Representative Joe P. Tolson Representative Douglas Yongue

FROM:

Jennie L. Lancaster, Chief Deputy Secretary

RE:

Reimburse Counties for Housing and Extraordinary Medical Costs for

Inmates, Parolees, and Post-Release Supervisees Awaiting Transfer to State Prison System

(S.L. 2009-451, Section 19.3)

DATE:

October 16, 2009

Pursuant to Section 19.3 of Session Law 2009-451 (Senate Bill 202), the Department of Correction is to report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee, the Chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives Appropriations Committees, and the Chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on the expenditure of funds to reimburse counties for prisoners awaiting transfer to the state prison system and on its progress in reducing the jail backlog. N.C.G.S. §148-29 authorizes the Department to pay \$40 per day to counties for persons awaiting transfer to the state prison system.

The Department incurred \$1,003,600 in backlog expenses for inmates awaiting transfer from July through September 2009. The Department expects the jail backlog situation to continue in the coming months primarily due to the increasing inmate population. Although the Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission projects that the inmate population will increase by 1,350 inmates by the end of the fiscal year, the General Assembly has not appropriated any funds to increase capacity. In addition, nearly 240 beds at Hoke Correctional Institution remain unavailable because of asbestos abatement and ceiling restoration.



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For FY 2008-09, the Department of Correction incurred the following backlog expenses:

Backlog Expenditures (FY 2008-09)

PERIOD	BACKLOG EXPENDITURES
July – September 2008	\$1,424,480
October-December 2008	\$931,280
January-March 2009	\$0
April-June 2009	\$681,120
FY 2008-09 TOTALS	\$3,036,880

Department of Correction staff members are available if further information is requested.

JLL:jbk

cc:

Aaron Gallagher

Doug Holbrook John Poteat