



## North Carolina Department of Correction

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Beverly Eaves Perdue  
Governor

Alvin W. Keller, Jr.  
Secretary

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Senator Phillip E. Berger  
Senator Peter S. Brunsletter  
Senator Neal Hunt  
Representative Jeff Barnhart  
Representative N. Leo Daughtry  
Representative W. David Guice  
Representative Shirley B. Randleman

Senator Harry Brown  
Senator Thom Goolsby  
Senator Richard Stevens  
Representative Harold Brubaker  
Representative Mitch Gillespie  
Representative Linda P. Johnson  
Representative Thomas R. Tillis

**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 [Section 18.5 - Session Law 2011-145]

**DATE:** October 18, 2011

Pursuant to Section 18.5 - Session Law 2011-145 (House Bill 200) 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 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 \$5,873,280 for the FY 2010-2011 in backlog expenditures for inmates awaiting transfer to prison. During the first quarter of FY 2011-2012 ending September 30, the Department has incurred no jail backlog expenditures.

The Department continues to maintain significant progress in reducing the jail backlog. Initiatives continue to include the processing of short term felons at designated diagnostic centers. Also, the Department continues to implement additional transfer runs from each



diagnostic center to assure that offenders who complete processing are transferred in a timely manner. These options will continue as required to manage the jail backlog.

The Department anticipates that maintaining the current level of jail backlog reductions may become more difficult. Factors that may affect the backlog include the closure of four minimum custody prison facilities, recent reductions in diagnostic center staff, and the proposed reduction in admissions as a result of the Justice Reinvestment Act that will not take effect until January, 2012.

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

JLL:BSB:jbk

cc: Meghan Brown  
Melvin Lee  
John Poteat  
Douglas Holbrook  
Kristine Leggett  
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General Assembly Legislative Library