

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 1449
Version:	INT
Request Number:	7161
Author:	Rep. Virgin
Date:	2/25/2019
Impact:	DOC: possible cost savings

Research Analysis

HB 1449 directs the courts to consider certain mitigating circumstances when determining sentences of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole on a person convicted of first-degree murder who was less than eighteen years of age at the time of the commission of the crime. The court may only impose a sentence of life without parole for a person under the age of eighteen at the time of the offense if the court finds beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant is a permanently incorrigible juvenile who is beyond rehabilitation. A person sentenced to this provision has a right to judicial review after 30 years of imprisonment. The measure allows the court to reduce a sentence of life without parole imposed on a defendant who was convicted of first-degree murder and who committed the offense before the person was eighteen years of age under certain circumstances. The measure establishes parole eligibility for persons whose offense occurred prior to the person reaching eighteen years of age.

Prepared By: Brad Wolgamott

Fiscal Analysis

HB 1449, which deals with juveniles sentenced to life without parole, could present some cost savings to DOC. The overall impact is contingent upon how many individuals, due to this measure, are not sentenced to life without parole. It currently costs DOC \$94.13/day or \$34,357.45/year to incarcerate one inmate in maximum security DOC custody. If one juvenile is incarcerated at age 17 and serves life in prison in a maximum facility until s/he is 80 years of age, the state would expend a projected \$2.2 million on that one individual's lifetime of incarceration.

Prepared By: Kristina King

Other Considerations

None.