

HB 211 -- CORRECTIONS OFFICER PAY

SPONSOR: Deeken

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Corrections and Public Institutions by a vote of 9 to 2.

Beginning July 1, 2009, this bill establishes minimum salary requirements for all corrections officers and supervisors.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of \$49,892,955 in FY 2010, \$52,334,688 in FY 2011, and \$53,885,436 in FY 2012. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that Missouri corrections officers receive the lowest pay in the country. The Department of Corrections experiences a high rate of turnover, especially in newer employees. The state spends an exorbitant amount of money on training, and many officers leave the department after they receive the training to seek more gainful employment. In order to maintain a qualified staff, the state needs to provide adequate compensation.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Deeken; and Missouri Corrections Officers Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.