

HB 612 -- CELL PHONES IN PRISON (Fitzwater, 144)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Civil and Criminal Proceedings

Currently, it is a crime to possess, deliver, deposit, or conceal specified items in any correctional center, prison, or jail. This bill adds a two-way telecommunications device or its component parts to the list of prohibited items.

The bill specifies that the prohibition does not apply to any law enforcement officer lawfully engaged in his or her duties or any individual authorized to use a two-way communications device in the facility.

Upon voter approval, this bill extends, from September 30, 2015, to September 30, 2027, the expiration date of the provisions allowing the commission of any regional jail district to impose, by order, a sales tax to provide jail services, court facilities, and equipment for the region.