



Colorado Legislative Council Staff
REVISED NO FISCAL IMPACT
(replaces fiscal impact dated January 10,2006)

Drafting Number: LLS 06-0218**Date:** April 10, 2006**Prime Sponsor(s):** Sen. Mitchell
Rep. Butcher**Bill Status:** Senate Appropriations**Fiscal Analyst:** Janis Baron (303-866-3523)

TITLE: CONCERNING A REPORT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS REGARDING THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES TO STATE INMATES THROUGH THE USE OF TELEMEDICINE.

Summary of Assessment

NOTE: This fiscal note is revised to reflect new information.

This interim committee bill, recommended by the Health Care Task Force, requires the Department of Corrections to study the state's options for providing medical services to state inmates in correctional facilities through the use of telemedicine. On or before February 1, 2007, the department is required to report its findings to the Health and Human Services Committees of the General Assembly. The bill specifies what the report is required to address. The bill is effective 90 days following final adjournment of the General Assembly (August 9, 2006), if adjournment sine die is May 10, 2006.

The bill is assessed at having no fiscal impact. The Department of Corrections has recently been using video conferencing to administer telepsychiatry. The department indicates that its mental health coordinator has gained valuable experience in administering this program and will be charged with coordinating the study required in the bill. Additionally, the department's communications unit is working with the telepsychiatry group and it has expertise regarding connectivity and appointment coordination. Should any knowledge gaps be identified during the course of the study, the department will absorb those costs within existing appropriations. (The fiscal note dated January 10, 2006, identified a \$50,000 General Fund for contractual services from a medical consulting firm to perform tasks associated with the study.)

Departments Contacted

Corrections