

**JBC Staff Fiscal Analysis**  
**House Appropriations Committee**

Concerning the amount that the department of corrections covers for penal communications services, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.

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**Prime Sponsors:**

Senators Amabile; Bridges  
Representatives Bird; Sirota

**Date Prepared:**

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**JBC Analyst:**

Justin Brakke  
303-866-4958

**Fiscal Impacts**

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Appropriation Already Added to Bill, No Amendment in Packet

General Fund Impact

Significant Appropriation Increase in Second Year

**Fiscal Note Status**

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The most recent Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 03/31/25.

**No Change:** Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill.

**Amendments in This Packet**

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None.

**Current Appropriations Clause in Bill**

The bill includes an appropriations clause that provides \$1,436,165 General Fund to the Department of Corrections in FY 2025-26. This amount is appropriated to cover 75.0 percent of the cost of inmate phone calls.

Combined with a Long Bill appropriation of \$1,434,634 General Fund, the total appropriation for this purpose in FY 2025-26 is \$2,870,799 General Fund.

## Points to Consider

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### General Fund Impact

The Joint Budget Committee (JBC) has proposed a budget package for FY 2025-26 based on the March 2025 Office of State Planning and Budgeting revenue forecast. The JBC has included as part of its FY 2025-26 budget package \$1,436,165 General Fund to be appropriated for implementation of this bill.

### Future Fiscal Impact

This bill is projected to require an appropriation of \$2,308,237 General Fund in FY 2026-27 to cover 100.0 percent of the cost of inmate phone calls. Current law requires the Department to cover 100.0 percent of the cost of inmate phone calls in FY 2025-26. This bill pushes that requirement to FY 2026-27. The fiscal note therefore shows that this bill saves \$2,308,237 General Fund in FY 2025-26, but this appropriation will be required in FY 2026-27.