

# **PRISON/JAIL POPULATION COST ESTIMATE STATEMENT**

Ninety-Sixth SESSION  
2021 South Dakota Legislature

## **House Bill 1185**

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An Act to reduce the penalty for manslaughter.

A prison/jail population cost estimate statement is required for HB1185 due to a decrease in the penalty from a Class C felony to a Class 2 felony.

There have been 66 convictions for first degree manslaughter in the last 10 years. Individuals serving time for these types of offenses are housed in maximum security facilities at a cost of \$90.76 per day. The average time served for a person convicted for first degree manslaughter is 3,051.8 days. The average time served for a person convicted for a Class 2 felony is 1,632.3 days.

Costs for housing each of these individuals over the life of their time served will decrease by \$128,833 per individual.

Therefore, about six offenders per year could be convicted of first-degree manslaughter. Savings would begin to be realized in approximately 4.5 years, when prisoners convicted of Class 2 felonies under this statute would first be released, saving \$109,320 in that year, and \$3,475,251 by the end of 10 years.

The impact to jail populations would be expected to be zero.

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