

PRISON/JAIL POPULATION COST ESTIMATE STATEMENT
NINETY-FIRST SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY 2016

SENATE BILL NO. 171

AN ACT TO PERMIT AND REGULATE THE COMPASSIONATE USE OF CANNABIS
AND PROVIDE PENALTIES THEREFOR.

A prison or jail impact statement has been requested on SB 171. The Legislative Research Council researched and analyzed statistics from states where marijuana is currently legal for medical purposes. It did not consider the impact to state revenue, business, law enforcement expenses, regulatory costs, or societal costs. The Legislative Research Council concluded that a portion of the state's current marijuana users would qualify to use, sell, or transfer medical marijuana and thus prevent a number of marijuana convictions. However, it also concluded that states that have enacted marijuana laws have seen a subsequent increase in overall marijuana usage, dependence, and abuse in adults which would essentially offset any savings from current illegal marijuana users being able to obtain marijuana legally for medical purposes. As a result, this measure will likely have a minimal net impact on prison and jail costs.

Approved: /S/ Jason Hancock

Date: 2/10/16

Director, Legislative Research Council