Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

PUBLISHED: 4/1/2026 10:52 AM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: HB173ER **Patron:** Anthony
Bill Title: State correctional facilities; visitation policies; annual report.

Bill Summary: The enrolled bill Sets additional visitation standards for visitors to state correctional facilities. The bill requires the Department of Corrections (the Department) to provide extended or additional visitation access for long-distance visitors. The bill provides that each in-person visit shall last a minimum of two hours unless shortened at the request of either the visitor or the incarcerated individual, or in response to an active security event. The bill also provides that visitation privileges may be suspended only for conduct occurring during visitation that presents a direct and substantial threat to the physical safety of participants or the security of the correctional facility. The bill provides a timeline and process for appealing any suspension of visitation rights. Finally, the bill directs the Department to convene a work group to consider and develop practical policy and legislative recommendations regarding visitation. The work group is required to report its findings and specific legislative and policy recommendations to the General Assembly by October 1, 2026.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No **Items Impacted: None**
Explanation: See below

Fiscal Summary:

According to the Department of Corrections (DOC), there is no anticipated fiscal impact from this bill.

Fiscal Analysis:

The pre-enrolled bill removes the data-collection requirement included in previous versions of this bill.

DOC confirmed the updated visitation policies and workgroup in this proposal would not require any additional staff costs.

Other: Identical to SB276S2.