

Summary of Legislative Action

S.B. 1009 Deuell (Harper-Brown)

Senate Bill 1009 continues the Commission on Jail Standards and contains all of the Sunset Commission's recommendations, including requiring a risk assessment plan to guide jail inspections and improving the Commission's complaints and public information procedures. The Legislature also added several other statutory modifications to S.B. 1009 regarding the treatment and reporting of pregnant or mentally ill inmates and guidance for jail commissary contracts. The list below summarizes the major provisions of S.B. 1009, and more detailed discussion is located in each issue.

Sunset Provisions

1. Continue the Texas Commission on Jail Standards as an independent agency for 12 years.
2. Require the Commission to more effectively target high-risk jails through its inspections process using specific risk factors, including a jail's compliance with standards for the treatment of inmates with mental illness.
3. Require the Commission to disseminate best practice information to jails.
4. Conform the Commission's complaints and public information procedures with commonly applied standards.

Provisions Added by the Legislature

1. Establish minimum requirements for identifying and serving the needs of pregnant inmates.
2. Require the Commission to provide guidelines for jail commissary contracts.

Fiscal Implication Summary

Senate Bill 1009 does not have a significant fiscal impact to the State.