



North Carolina Department of Correction

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Theodis Beck
Secretary

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FROM: 
Tracy A. Little, Deputy Secretary

RE: Reimburse Counties for Housing and Extraordinary Medical Costs for
Inmates, Parolees, and Post-Release Supervisees (S.L. 2005-276, Section 17.2)

DATE: October 17, 2005

Pursuant to Section 17.2 of Session Law 2005-276 (Senate Bill 622), the Department of Correction is to report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the Joint Legislative Corrections, Crime Control and Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee the Chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives Appropriations Committees, and the Chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety on the expenditure of funds to reimburse counties for prisoners awaiting transfer to the state prison system and on its progress in reducing the jail backlog.

N.C.G.S. §148-29 authorizes the Department to pay \$40 per day to counties for persons awaiting transfer to the state prison system. The Division of Prisons had no jail backlog for the first two months of the quarter, July and August. In September, however, the Division of Prisons incurred \$419,480 in backlog expenses for inmates awaiting transfer. The jail backlog was due to a statewide travel freeze that delayed transfer of offenders from diagnostic facilities and a continuing growth of the offender population.

The Division of Prisons anticipates that the jail backlog will continue until additional beds become available upon completion of the three 1,000-cell facilities currently under construction.

Department of Correction staff members are available if further information is requested.

TL/jk

cc: Jim Mills
Boyd Bennett

Barbara Baker
Bryon Harris

Betty McGuire