

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6206**  
**BILL NUMBER: SB 199**

**DATE PREPARED:** Nov 11, 1999  
**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Youthful Offender System Program.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** Mark Bucherl  
**PHONE NUMBER:** 232-9869

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  **GENERAL**  
 **DEDICATED**  
**FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill establishes the Youthful Offender System (YOS) Program within the Department of Correction to allow for placement of youthful offenders in a regimented environment that assists in developing certain skills and values in an effort to deter the offender from becoming a repeat or more serious offender. It applies to offenders who are less than 19 years of age and commit a Class C or Class D felony.

This bill provides that the YOS program consists of the following phases: (1) The intake, diagnostic, and orientation phase, which is based in part upon the traditional paramilitary boot camp. (2) Phase I, which takes place at a secure facility for a period of eight to 48 months, during which time the offender participates in diverse and individually tailored programs ranging from educational to behavioral in nature. (3) Phase II, which consists of a three month confinement to a residential facility. (4) Phase III, which consists of a period of community supervision.

This bill allows a court to place a youthful offender in the YOS program for at least two but not more than six years. It requires the Department of Correction to collect certain data to evaluate the effectiveness of the program. It also makes certain other changes relating to the YOS program.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2000.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** The impact on expenditures is dependent on the number of participants in Department of Correction (DOC) facilities who are eligible for the YOS program specified. As of November 3, 1999, there were 317 offenders under the age of 19 years convicted of Class C and D felonies in adult facilities. The average sentence for these offenders is approximately 4½ years with resulting prison terms of about two years. More offenders may be admitted to this program based on probationary conditions assessed by courts and DOC program space availability.

The program components indicate specialized processing of youthful offenders, as specified in the summary above. These may entail cost provisions for setting up separate YOS Programs, including but not limited to: (1) a separate intake and diagnosis procedure; (2) potential capital costs of residential incarceration facilities (with less than 16 offenders each); (3) boot camp program components; specialized educational components; Phase II and III residential and community supervision components; and DOC program evaluation. Cost considerations will also be dependent upon DOC determinations of state-provided or private contract services for program components.

The program specified in this bill is based upon a Colorado YOS Program whose per diem cost of incarceration (not including residential or community supervision components nor capital construction costs) was \$106 (\$38,700 annually) for approximately 240 offenders (aged 14-21 years) in FY 1997. The average expenditure to house a juvenile offender in an Indiana DOC juvenile facility was \$43,500 in FY 98.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Department of Correction.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Trial courts.

**Information Sources:** Planning Division, Department of Correction; Scott Hromas, Colorado Department of Corrections, (719) 540-4795.