

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5014

As Reported by Senate Committee On:
Human Services & Corrections, January 20, 2009

Title: An act relating to exempting special commitment center security information from disclosure under the public records act.

Brief Description: Concerning the exemption of the special commitment center under the public records act.

Sponsors: Senators McAuliffe, Hargrove, Brandland and Stevens; by request of Department of Social and Health Services.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Human Services & Corrections: 1/20/09 [DP].

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & CORRECTIONS

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Hargrove, Chair; Regala, Vice Chair; Stevens, Ranking Minority Member; Brandland, Carrell and McAuliffe.

Staff: Kevin Black (786-7747)

Background: The public disclosure law exempts from disclosure portions of records containing specific and unique vulnerability assessments, emergency plans, and escape response plans at a city, county, or state, adult or juvenile correctional facility. To be exempt, the disclosure must pose a substantial likelihood that the safety of the correctional facility or any individual would be threatened.

Summary of Bill: Records containing specific and unique vulnerability assessments, emergency plans, or escape response plans at the Special Commitment Center (SCC) are exempt from public disclosure as long as the disclosure of these records would pose a substantial likelihood that, if disclosed, the safety of the SCC or any individual would be threatened.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: PRO: This bill would protect sensitive information which, in the wrong hands, could present a significant risk to public safety.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Kelly Cunningham, Department of Social and Health Services.