



# BUDGET BRIEFING

DWIGHT EVANS, DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN

July 8, 2010

## 2010/11 Budget: Public Safety

### Corrections

The 2010/11 budget for the Department of Corrections is \$1.69 billion in state funds, an increase of 5.1% over 2009/10.

The budget increases the **Inmate Medical Care** (6.1%) and the **State Correctional Institution** (5.4%) appropriations. Inmate medical care will increase nearly \$14 million to \$243.5 million. The State Correctional Institution appropriation will increase \$70.3 million to nearly \$1.4 billion. Similar to 2009/10, the state correctional institution (SCI) appropriation will be bolstered by \$173 million in funding from ARRA State Fiscal Stabilization funds.

As of May 31, 2010, there were 47,926 inmates (not including inmates in county or out-of-state jails). The total number of inmates under DOC supervision is 50,622. Pennsylvania's SCI's at full capacity hold 43,584 inmates; therefore, the commonwealth was 111% of capacity as of December 31, 2009. Pennsylvania is 117 percent over capacity if inmates in county and out-of-state jails are included. DOC currently has 593 inmates housed in county jails within the commonwealth and 2,131 inmates housed in Michigan and Virginia.

### Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole

The 2010/11 budget appropriates \$120.5 million for the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole (PBPP). This is a 2.4% increase or nearly \$2.9 million more than 2009/10. The Governor indicates that \$2 million is for **additional parole officer positions** to improve parolee supervision and to reduce the likelihood of repeat offending. Since

PBPP did not receive the Governor's proposed level of funding, additional agents for the agency may be in jeopardy for 2010/11. An insufficient number of agents could prove costly for the Commonwealth as it costs approximately \$35,000 to house an inmate in a state correctional institution and about \$3,000 per year to supervise an offender on parole.

While PBPP's **General Government Operations** appropriation and **Sexual Offenders Assessment Board** will receive increases in funding, funding for **Improvement of Adult Probation Services** is cut by 5.7%. This reduction will affect county reimbursements.

### Commission on Crime and Delinquency

The 2010/11 budget cuts the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) by 8.8%. Fortunately, many programs receiving federal funding are either level-funded or increased; however, state programs receive significant cuts under the proposal. These programs include: **Victims of Juvenile Crime, Evidence-Based Prevention and Intervention, Weed and Seed, Intermediate Punishment Programs, Intermediate Punishment Drug and Alcohol Treatment, and Research-Based Violence Prevention.**

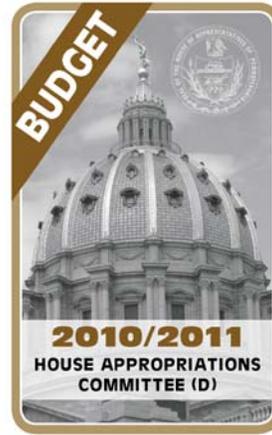
### Pennsylvania State Police

The 2010/11 budget for the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) provides for a 3.9% decrease in General Funds and a 2.8% increase in the Motor License Fund. Overall, PSP can expect a 1.1% increase in funding. While the Governor's original budget included \$5.1 million for a cadet class, it is

not certain that a cadet class will materialize since PSP will not receive that level of funding.

The budget reduces the **Law Enforcement Information Technology** appropriation, **Gun Checks**, and the **Automated Fingerprint ID System**. The budget reduces the **Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission**.

These levels continue to cause concern for local municipalities hoping to have their officers newly certified or maintain certification.



**QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

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