

Committee on Criminal Justice

SB 1116 — Trust Funds/State-Operated Institutions Inmate Welfare Trust Fund/Department of Corrections

by Senators Brandes, Pizzo, Bracy, and Powell

The bill creates s. 944.73, F.S., establishing a State-Operated Institutions Inmate Welfare Trust Fund within the Department of Corrections. This is substantively the same as the Privately Operated Institutions Inmate Welfare Trust Fund (POIWTF) established in s. 944.72, F.S., but with the stated purpose to benefit and provide for the welfare of inmates incarcerated in state-operated correctional facilities. Money is required to be deposited into and the expenditures made from the trust fund as provided in s. 945.215, F.S.

As with POIWTF, the newly created s. 944.73, F.S., provides that notwithstanding s. 216.301, F.S., and pursuant to s. 216.351, F.S., any balance in the trust fund at the end of any fiscal year must remain in the trust fund at the end of the year and be available for carrying out the purposes of the trust fund.

As required by the State Constitution, the bill provides that the State-Operated Institutions Inmate Welfare Trust Fund will terminate on July 1, 2024, unless terminated sooner. Additionally, the bill requires the trust fund to be reviewed as provided in s. 215.3206(1) and (2), F.S., before its scheduled termination.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2020.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 113-0