

Assembly Bill No. 3378

CHAPTER 1107

An act to amend Sections 7500, 7501, 7503, 7505, 7512.5, 7513, 7515, 7518, 7520, 7521, and 7522 of the Penal Code, relating to correctional institutions.

[Approved by Governor September 29, 1996. Filed
with Secretary of State September 30, 1996.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 3378, Brown. Correctional institutions: human immunodeficiency virus.

Existing law authorizes the testing of an inmate under certain circumstances, if there is a reasonable belief that the inmate may be suffering from AIDS or AIDS-related diseases and is a danger to other inmates or staff.

This bill would replace the reference to AIDS-related diseases with that of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. The bill would make conforming changes to related provisions. The bill would also revise provisions relating to an inmate's right to appeal a decision to test for HIV or AIDS.

Existing law gives the State Department of Health Services specified powers and duties with respect to the testing of inmates for HIV and AIDS.

The bill would generally transfer those powers and duties from the State Department of Health Services to the Department of Corrections, the Department of the Youth Authority, or the county, city, or county and city, and would provide that the Office of AIDS in the State Department of Health Services shall act as a consultant.

By imposing new duties on cities, counties, and local health officers, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement, including the creation of a State Mandates Claims Fund to pay the costs of mandates that do not exceed \$1,000,000 statewide and other procedures for claims whose statewide costs exceed \$1,000,000.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.



The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 7500 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

7500. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) The public peace, health, and safety is endangered by the spread of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) within state and local correctional institutions.

(b) The spread of AIDS within prison and jail populations presents a grave danger to inmates within those populations, law enforcement personnel, and other persons in contact with a prisoner infected with the AIDS virus, both during and after the prisoner's confinement. Law enforcement personnel and prisoners are particularly vulnerable to this danger, due to the high number of assaults and other violent acts which occur within correctional institutions.

(c) AIDS has the frightening potential of spreading more rapidly within the closed society of correctional institutions than outside these institutions. This major public health problem is compounded by the further potential of rapid spread of communicable disease outside correctional institutions, through contacts of an infected prisoner who is not treated and monitored upon his or her release.

(d) New diseases of epidemic proportions, such as AIDS may suddenly and tragically infect large numbers of people. This title primarily addresses a current problem of this nature, the spread of AIDS among those in correctional institutions and among the people of California.

(e) HIV and AIDS pose a major threat to the public health and safety of those governmental employees and others whose responsibilities bring them into most direct contact with persons afflicted with those illnesses, and the protection of the health and safety of these personnel is of equal importance to the people of the State of California as is the protection of the health of those afflicted with the diseases who are held in custodial situations.

(f) Testing described in this title of individuals housed within state and local correctional facilities for evidence of infection by HIV or AIDS would help provide a level of information necessary for effective disease control within these institutions and would help preserve the health of public employees, inmates, and persons in custody, as well as that of the public at large. This testing is not intended to be, and shall not be construed as, a prototypical method of disease control for the public at large.

SEC. 2. Section 7501 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

7501. In order to address the public health crisis described in Section 7500, it is the intent of the Legislature to do all of the following:

(a) Establish a procedure through which custodial and law enforcement personnel are required to report certain situations and



may request and be granted a confidential HIV test of an inmate convicted of a crime, or a person arrested or taken into custody, if the custodial or law enforcement officer has reason to believe he or she has come into contact with the blood or semen of an inmate or in any other manner has come into contact with the inmate in a way that could result in HIV infection, based on the latest determinations and conclusions by the federal Centers for Disease Control and the State Department of Health Services on means for the transmission of AIDS, and if appropriate medical authorities, as provided for in this title, reasonably believe there is good medical reason for the test.

(b) Permit inmates to file similar requests stemming from contacts with other inmates.

(c) Require that probation and parole officers be notified when an inmate being released from incarceration is infected with AIDS, and permit these officers to notify certain persons who will come into contact with the parolee or probationer, if authorized by law.

(d) Authorize prison medical staff authorities to require tests of a jail or prison inmate under certain circumstances, if they reasonably believe, based upon the existence of supporting evidence, that the inmate may be suffering from HIV infection or AIDS and is a danger to other inmates or staff.

(e) Require supervisory and medical personnel of correctional institutions to which this title applies to notify staff if they are coming into close and direct contact with persons in custody who have tested positive or who have AIDS, and provide appropriate counseling and safety equipment.

SEC. 3. Section 7503 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

7503. The Department of Corrections, the Department of the Youth Authority, and county health officers shall adopt guidelines permitting a chief medical officer to delegate his or her medical responsibilities under this title to other qualified physicians and surgeons, and his or her nonmedical responsibilities to other qualified persons, as appropriate. The chief medical officer shall not, however, delegate the duty to determine whether mandatory testing is required as provided for in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 7510).

SEC. 4. Section 7505 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

7505. This title is intended to provide the authority for state and local correctional, custodial, and law enforcement agencies to perform medical testing of inmates and prisoners for the purposes specified herein. However, notwithstanding any other provision of this title, this title shall serve as authority for the HIV testing of prisoners in only those local facilities where the governing body has adopted a resolution affirming that it shall be operative in that city, county, or city and county. Testing within state correctional facilities under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections and state



juvenile facilities under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Youth Authority shall not be affected by this requirement.

SEC. 5. Section 7512.5 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

7512.5. In the absence of the filing of a report pursuant to Section 7510 or a request pursuant to Section 7512, the chief medical officer, may order a test of an inmate if he or she concludes there are clinical symptoms of HIV infection or AIDS , as recognized by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

A copy of the decision shall be provided to the inmate, and where the inmate is a minor, to the parents or guardian of the minor, unless the parent or guardian of the minor cannot be located. Any decision made pursuant to this section shall not be appealable to a three-member panel provided for under Section 7515.

SEC. 6. Section 7513 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

7513. An inmate who is the subject of an HIV test report filed pursuant to Section 7510 or an HIV test report filed pursuant to Section 7512 shall receive, in conjunction with the decision of the chief medical officer to order a test, a copy of this title, a written description of the right to appeal the chief medical officer's decision which includes the applicable timelines, and notification of his or her right to receive pretest and posttest counseling by staff that have been certified as HIV test counselors.

SEC. 7. Section 7515 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

7515. (a) A decision of the chief medical officer made pursuant to Section 7511, 7512, or 7516 may be appealed, within three calendar days of receipt of the decision, to a three-person panel, either by the person required to be tested, or his or her parent or guardian when the subject is a minor, the law enforcement employee filing a report pursuant to either Section 7510 or 7516, or the person requesting testing pursuant to Section 7512, whichever is applicable, or the chief medical officer, upon his or her own motion. If no request for appeal is filed under this subdivision, the chief medical officer's decision shall be final.

(b) Depending upon which entity has jurisdiction over the person requesting or appealing a test, the Department of Corrections, the Department of the Youth Authority, the county, the city, or the county and city shall convene the appeal panel and shall ensure that the appeal is heard within 30 calendar days from the date an appeal request is filed pursuant to subdivision (a).

(c) A panel required pursuant to subdivision (a) shall consist of three members, as follows:

(1) The chief medical officer making the original decision.

(2) A physician and surgeon who has knowledge in the diagnosis, treatment, and transmission of HIV selected by the Department of Corrections, Department of the Youth Authority, county, city, or county and city. The physician and surgeon appointed pursuant to this paragraph shall preside at the hearing and serve as chairperson.



(3) A physician and surgeon not on the staff of, or under contract with, a state, county, city, or county and city correctional institution or with an employer of a law enforcement employee as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 7502, and who has knowledge of the diagnosis, treatment, and transmission of HIV. The physician and surgeon appointed pursuant to this paragraph shall be selected by the State Department of Health Services from among a list of persons to be compiled by that department. The State Department of Health Services shall adopt standards for selecting persons for the list required by this paragraph, as well as for their reimbursement, and shall, to the extent possible, utilize its normal process for selecting consultants in compiling this list.

The Legislature finds and declares that the presence of a physician and surgeon on the panel who is selected by the State Department of Health Services enhances the objectivity of the panel and it is the intent of the Legislature that the State Department of Health Services make every attempt to comply with this subdivision.

(d) The Department of Corrections, county, city, or county and city shall notify the Office of AIDS in the State Department of Health Services when a panel must be convened under subdivision (a). Within 10 calendar days of the notification, a physician and surgeon appointed under paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) shall reach agreement with the Department of Corrections, the county, the city, or the county and city on a date for the hearing that complies with subdivision (b).

(e) If the Office of AIDS in the State Department of Health Services fails to comply with subdivision (d) or the physician and surgeon appointed under paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) fails to attend the scheduled hearing, the Department of Corrections, county, city, or county and city shall appoint a physician or surgeon who has knowledge of the diagnosis, treatment, and transmission of HIV to serve on the appeals panel to replace the physician and surgeon required under paragraph (3) of subdivision (c). The Department of Corrections, county, city, or county and city shall have standards for selecting persons under this subdivision and for their reimbursement.

The Department of Corrections, the Department of the Youth Authority, the county, the city, or the county and city shall, whenever feasible, create, and utilize ongoing panels to hear appeals under this section. The membership of the panel shall meet the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subdivision (c).

No panel shall be created pursuant to this paragraph by a county, city, or county and city correctional institution except with the prior approval of the local health officer.

(f) A hearing conducted pursuant to this section shall be closed, except that each of the following persons shall have the right to



attend the hearing, speak on the issues presented at the hearing, and call witnesses to testify at the hearing:

(1) The chief medical officer, who may also bring staff essential to the hearing, as well as the other two members of the panel.

(2) The subject of the chief medical officer's decision, except that a subject who is a minor may attend only with the consent of his or her parent or guardian, and if the subject is a minor, his or her parent or guardian.

(3) The law enforcement employee filing the report pursuant to Section 7510, or the person requesting HIV testing pursuant to Section 7512, whichever is applicable, and if the person is a minor, his or her parent or guardian.

(g) The subject of the test, or the person requesting the test pursuant to Section 7512, or who filed the report pursuant to Section 7510, whichever is applicable, may appoint a representative to attend the hearing in order to assist him or her.

(h) When a hearing is sought pursuant to this section, the decision shall be rendered within 10 days of the date upon which the appeal is filed pursuant to subdivision (a). A unanimous vote of all the panel shall be necessary in order to require that the subject of the hearing undergo HIV testing.

The criteria specified in Section 7511 for use by the chief medical officer shall also be utilized by the panel in making its decision.

The decision shall be in writing, stating reasons for the decision, and shall be signed by the members. A copy shall be provided by the chief medical officer to the person requesting the test, or filing the report, whichever is applicable, to the subject of the test, and, when the subject is in a correctional institution, to the superintendent of the institution, except that when the subject of the test or the person upon whose behalf the request for the test was made is a minor, copies shall also be provided to the parent or guardian of the person, unless the parent or guardian cannot be located.

SEC. 8. Section 7518 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

7518. (a) The Department of Corrections, the Department of the Youth Authority, and local health officers shall adopt guidelines for the making of decisions pursuant to this chapter in consultation with the Office of AIDS in the State Department of Health Services. The guidelines shall be based on the latest written guidelines of HIV transmission and infection established by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

(b) Oversight responsibility for implementation of the applicable provisions of this title, including the oversight of reports involving parole officers and the staff of state prisons shall be vested with the Chief of Medical Services in the Department of Corrections. Oversight responsibility for implementation of Section 7515 in the facilities of the Department of the Youth Authority shall be vested with the Chief of Medical Services in the Department of the Youth



Authority. Oversight responsibility for implementation of Section 7515 with respect to reports involving parole or probation officers shall be vested with the Chief of Parole and Community Services Division in the Department of Corrections.

Oversight responsibility at the county, the city, or the county and city level shall rest with the local health officer.

SEC. 9. Section 7520 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

7520. Upon the release of an inmate from a correctional institution, a medical representative of the institution shall notify the inmate's parole or probation officer, where it is the case, that the inmate has tested positive for infection with HIV, or has been diagnosed as having AIDS. The representative of the correctional institution shall obtain the latest available medical information concerning any precautions which should be taken under the circumstances, and shall convey that information to the parole or probation officer.

When a parole or probation officer learns from responsible medical authorities that a parolee or probationer under his or her jurisdiction has AIDS or has tested positive for HIV infection, the parole or probation officer shall be responsible for ensuring that the parolee or probationer contacts the county health department in order to be, or through his or her own physician and surgeon is, made aware of counseling and treatment for AIDS commensurate with that available to the general population of that county.

SEC. 10. Section 7521 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

7521. (a) When a parole or probation officer learns from responsible medical authorities that a parolee or probationer in his or her custody has any of the conditions listed in Section 7520, but that the parolee or probationer has not properly informed his or her spouse, the officer may ensure that this information is relayed to the spouse only through either the chief medical officer of the institution from which the person was released or the physician and surgeon treating the spouse or the parolee or probationer. The parole or probation officer shall seek to ensure that proper counseling accompanies release of this information to the spouse, through the person providing the information to the inmate's spouse.

(b) If a parole or probation officer has received information from appropriate medical authorities that one of his or her parolees or probationers is HIV infected or has AIDS, and the parolee or probationer has a record of assault on a peace officer, and the officer seeks the aid of local law enforcement officers to apprehend or take into custody the parolee or probationer, he or she shall inform the officers assisting him or her in apprehending or taking into custody the parolee or probationer, of the person's condition, to aid them in protecting themselves from contracting AIDS.

(c) Local law enforcement officers receiving information pursuant to this subdivision shall maintain confidentiality of



information received pursuant to subdivision (b). Willful use or disclosure of this information is a misdemeanor. Parole or probation officers who willfully or negligently disclose information about AIDS infection, other than as prescribed under this title or any other provision of law, shall also be guilty of a misdemeanor.

SEC. 11. Section 7522 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

7522. (a) Supervisory and medical personnel in correctional institutions shall notify all law enforcement employees when those employees have had direct contact with the bodily fluids of, inmates or persons charged or in custody who either have tested positive for infection with HIV, or been diagnosed as having AIDS.

(b) Supervisory and medical personnel at correctional institutions shall provide to employees covered by this section the latest medical information regarding precautions to be taken under the circumstances, and shall furnish proper protective clothing and other necessary protective devices or equipment, and instruct staff on the applicability of this title.

SEC. 12. Notwithstanding Section 17610 of the Government Code, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code. If the statewide cost of the claim for reimbursement does not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000), reimbursement shall be made from the State Mandates Claims Fund.

Notwithstanding Section 17580 of the Government Code, unless otherwise specified, the provisions of this act shall become operative on the same date that the act takes effect pursuant to the California Constitution.

