

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE  
Pursuant to P.A. 245 of 2008  
Section 304  
Employee Cost Saving Suggestion - 3rd Quarter

Section 304 - The director of the department shall develop a staff savings initiative program to invite employees to submit suggestions for savings costs for the department. The department shall report quarterly to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on corrections, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director on the suggestions submitted under this section, the implementation plan for those suggestions with which the department agrees, and an explanation of any disagreements with suggestions.

In order to comply with the requirement of Section 304, the Department of Corrections published an article in the November 21, 2008 FYI Employee Newsletter informing staff to submit their suggestions for cost saving suggestions. The below is suggestions received to date:

SUGGESTION	IMPLEMENTATION PLAN	REASON FOR NOT IMPLEMENTED
Require colorfast clothes, eliminate kitchen whites, central laundry, eliminate washing and drying machines in housing units.		Kitchen workers wear a white uniform to better sanitize the clothing, and to permit the clothing to be visually inspected for cleanliness. MSI Laundry service provides a centralized service which permits the laundry to be sent out, minimizing the need for washing machine and dryers in the housing units.
Probable cause drug testing only, eliminate random drug testing.		The random substance abuse testing provides a snapshot of drug use/misuse in our facilities. The information gathered in these tests helps to keep our facilities safer.
Return to Paradox Pass and Movement dot matrix printers.	The amount of paper waste generated by the prisoner movement program is a concern that has been previously raised. Ways to reduce the paper used are currently being evaluated.	
Assess Information Technology contracts for overcharges, excessive costs.		DMB controls contract costs such as Office Max and costs of computer equipment such as printers.
Relocate Central Office to a building the state owns.		It is cost prohibitive to relocate Grandview Plaza employees within various state owned buildings as enough space in one building is not currently available. DMB Real Estate Division reviews all buildings rented for state operations and any change in occupancy is handled by that office.
Eliminate \$.50 Max Pay for CTO's.		OSE represents the Department in contract negotiations. Current contract provisions prohibit the elimination of max pay for CTO's.
Replace Microsoft Windows with Linux OS.		The Department of Information Technology determines what computer operating systems are used.
Eliminate Travel Vouchers.		Per DMB Administrative Guide regulations, employees are to be reimbursed at the approved rates for all travel expenses incurred outside of employee's work locations. Paper vouchers will be eliminated once the DCDS Time and Expense study is ready for implementation.
Unpaid furlough days for MCO members.		This has been referred to the Office of the State Employer.
Delay benefits for new employees until initial six month evaluation is completed.		This has been referred to the Office of the State Employer.
Stretch out time to 10 years for an employee to get to top of pay scale.		This has been referred to the Civil Service Commission.
Maintain annual leave accrual at 4.7 hours for first 10 years then increase it every five years thereafter.		This has been referred to the Civil Service Commission.
If someone promotes or changes jobs, delay reaching top of pay scale for 10 years.		This has been referred to the Civil Service Commission.
After changes made for above suggestion, propose 85 and out at 1.75 multiplier for 3 months.		This has been referred to the Civil Service Commission.
Wait 6 months from the end of above suggestion, then offer 80 and out with 1.75 multiplier.		This has been referred to the Civil Service Commission.