

BUDGET REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND JUDICIARY

Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the 2023 Interim

June 7, 2023

Call to Order and Roll Call

The 1st meeting of the Budget Review Subcommittee on Justice and Judiciary was held on June 7, 2023, at 9:00 AM in Room 129 of the Capitol Annex. Representative Patrick Flannery, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Representative Patrick Flannery, Co-Chair; Representative Daniel Elliott, Representative Brandon Reed, Senator Michael J. Nemes, Senator John Schickel, Representative George Brown Jr., Representative Jennifer Decker, Representative Nima Kulkarni, and Representative Scott Sharp.

Guests: Phillip J. Burnett, Jr., Commissioner, Kentucky State Police; Kieryn Fannin, Director of Population Management, Department of Corrections; Hilary Dailey, Deputy Commissioner of Support Services, Department of Corrections

LRC Staff: Zachary Ireland, Perry Papka, and Benjamin Thompson.

Kentucky State Police - Update - Recruitment and Retention of State Troopers

Commissioner Burnett provided an update on the number of troopers in the Kentucky State Police.

In response to questions from Representative Kulkarni, Commissioner Burnett noted that the maximum number of recruits in a training class is 110. The largest number of troopers at one time was 1,007 in 2006.

In response to a question from Senator Schickel, Commissioner Burnett stated that standards will not be sacrificed as long as he is Commissioner.

In response to questions from Chair Flannery, Commissioner Burnett noted that there are roughly one and a half classes per year, as there is some overlap.

Department of Corrections - Update - Prison Population Trends

Ms. Fannin and Ms. Dailey provided information regarding inmate populations.

In response to a question from Senator Schickel, Ms. Dailey said that there were slightly higher numbers of inmates in prisons than jails.

In response to questions from Chair Flannery, Ms. Dailey noted that the Department of Corrections does not see a large difference in population trends from pre-COVID to present. Ms. Dailey noted that inmate populations were above the estimated numbers, but the department had a sufficient budget to handle the higher than expected population.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the subcommittee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 AM.