CS/SB 574 – Conditional Aging Inmate Release

This bill creates s. 945.0912, F.S., establishing "a conditional aging inmate release program within the department for the purpose of determining eligible inmates who are appropriate for such release, supervising the released inmates, and conducting revocation hearings as provided for in this section." An inmate becomes eligible for this program when the inmate "has reached 70 years of age and has served at least 10 years on his or her term of imprisonment." However, an inmate may not be considered for release through the program "if he or she has ever been found guilty of, regardless of adjudication, or entered a plea of nolo contendere or guilty to, or has been adjudicated delinquent for committing" a list of offenses involving the killing of a human being or serving as predicates to registration as a sexual offender. Furthermore, an inmate who is eligible for consideration as a candidate for conditional aging inmate release must be considered for this program.

Per DOC, currently there are 160 inmates potentially eligible under the criteria outlined in the bill. However, given the multiple steps involving both the consideration of additional evidence/investigations and the right of victims to be heard, as well as an initial majority decision by a panel and the final decision by the Secretary for those who are denied by the panel, it is not known how many of the potentially eligible inmates would be part of this program.

CONFERENCE ADOPTED ESTIMATE: Negative Insignificant