

TALKING POINTS HB 210

- This bill takes policies and procedures for testing for blood borne pathogen exposure in correctional officers, which was passed last session and expands the list to include:
 - Peace Officers
 - Fire Fighters
 - Emergency Medical Technicians
 - And Mobile Paramedics

*** In the bill, “*correctional officers*” would be changed to “*public safety officers*” – Defined on the last page of the bill.**

- If an individual is exposed to another’s blood or bodily fluid that is contaminated with blood borne pathogens, they are at risk of being exposed to a variety of viruses from Hepatitis to HIV.
 - If a public safety officer feels that he or she has had significant exposure from an offender or prisoner, this bill would give them the right to request from their employing agency testing for blood borne pathogens.
 - A physician would then determine whether the exposure to blood or bodily fluid was significant enough for further testing.
 - If further testing is necessary, the physician will then have to request a blood sample from the prisoner/offender.
 - You will find a description of these procedures in the first section of the bill
 - Throughout the process, the identity of the person being tested is protected.
 - And the test results are passed on to that person.
 - The bill also provides information on the process in which tests can be ordered if the person who potentially exposed the public safety officer to blood borne pathogens refuses to be tested. **(Sect. 3 of the bill – pg. 4)**
- ❖ *This bill does not enact any new policies or procedures for blood borne pathogen testing, it simply adds public safety officers I mentioned before to the current statute.*