

Staff Information Paper

Highlights of the 2022 House Omnibus Public Safety Bill

April 5, 2022

This paper highlights elements of the 2022 House Omnibus Public Safety Bill ([HF 4608](#)) considered by MSGC staff to be of particular interest to the Commission. This paper analyzes the bill [as introduced](#) in the House Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance and Policy Committee on April 5, 2022. Please note that the bill may have been significantly amended since then.

As an omnibus bill, HF 4608 is an amalgamation of several smaller bills. Table 1 refers to each policy proposal by original bill number (when known) and its by its location in the original, [as-introduced](#) version of the omnibus bill. Table 1 then describes the policy proposal and makes a note of any elements that staff considers to be of particular interest to the Commission. Policy descriptions are not intended to be precise.

Table 1. Select Policy Proposals, 2022 House Omnibus Public Safety Bill as Introduced in Committee

Original Bill	Policy Proposed	Directly Affects MSGC	Increases Prison Population	Reduces Prison or Felony Populations	Notes
Art. 2 § 3	Define “public safety” within MSGC charter statute to include human rights	X			
Art. 2 § 13	Task new Public Safety Innovation Board with improving public safety by increasing providers’ efficiency, effectiveness, & capacity (ongoing Dep’t of Public Safety [DPS] Office of Justice Programs [OJP] board)				

This document was prepared by the staff of the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission for the Commission’s review. This document has not been adopted by the Commission and does not necessarily represent its views.

Original Bill	Policy Proposed	Directly Affects MSGC	Increases Prison Population	Reduces Prison or Felony Populations	Notes
Art. 2 § 17	Establish Office of Missing and Murdered Black Women and Girls (ongoing DPS OJP office)				
HF2374/ SF2852 Art. 2 § 24	Expand “qualified domestic violence related offense” list to include five homicide & kidnapping-related offenses		×		+3 prison beds
HF4078 Art. 2 §§ 14, 15, 25–29	Amend labor trafficking definitions		×		+1 or 2 prison beds
Art. 2 § 39	Create task force to review the juvenile justice system (10/22–1/24)				
HF1355 Art. 4	Include marijuana resin (≤ 8 g) within the “small amount” definition and establish a gross misdemeanor threshold for first-time marijuana possession (42.5–85 g, or 8–16 g resin)			×	–8 prison beds –81 felony cases annually
Art. 4 § 21	Create task force to review the state’s response to drug abuse (9/22–1/25)				

Original Bill	Policy Proposed	Directly Affects MSGC	Increases Prison Population	Reduces Prison or Felony Populations	Notes
Art. 5 §§ 9–10	Task new Indeterminate Sentencing Release Board with making supervised release decisions on eligible life sentences				This authority now belongs to Commissioner of Corrections alone
HF3013 Art. 5 § 11	Make MSGC analysts classified state employees	×			Standalone bill passed House on 4/4/22
HF4174 Art. 5 §§ 20 & 40	To be criminally liable for felony murder, require an accomplice to share in the principal’s intent to kill (first degree) or to be a major participant with extreme indifference to human life (second degree); allow petitions for retroactive application of this policy			×	–18 prison beds The bill also reauthorizes related task force (on which MSGC staff participated)
HF1369 Art. 5 § 39	Require MSGC to convene Task Force on the Collection of Charging & Related Data (9/22–1/24)	×			MSGC one-time consultant costs funded at \$238K
Art. 7	Implement various probation reform measures, including tribal supervision, a new funding formula, and the creation of a Supervision Standards Committee (7/22–1/25)				