

Governor, on the ground that the crime for which they were convicted was not committed at all or not committed by them (a “pardon of innocence”). Current law specifies that the individual can petition the Department of Correction for a hearing before the Parole Commission. This bill moves the petition/hearing to the Industrial Commission and raises the limits on compensation from \$500 per year of imprisonment to \$10,000 per year and from a total of \$5,000 to a total of \$150,000. It also specifies claims must be made within 5 years of the pardon .

According to the Governor’s Office of Pardon and the Post Release Supervision and Parole Commission, only one individual has received a pardon of innocence in memory. That individual was incarcerated roughly 11 years and pardoned in 1995. Their claim may be as high as \$110,000 (11*10000) depending on the findings of the Industrial Commission.

Because pardons of innocence are rare events, no impact is projected on the Industrial Commission.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION

733-4910

PREPARED BY: Elisa Wolper

APPROVED BY: TomCovingtonTomC

DATE: April 18, 1997



Signed Copy Located in the NCGA Principal Clerk's Offices