**Section 702.80 Housing**

a) Introduction

When admission procedures are completed, youth must be assigned appropriate quarters.

b) Minimum Standards

1) Detention Room Space

At least 70 square feet of floor space shall be provided for each detention room.

2) Detention Room Occupancy

The following measures shall be observed to ensure reasonable security, sanitation, and personal comfort:

A) All existing detention rooms shall be designated for single occupancy. This requirement may be waived for multiple occupancy/dormitory rooms in existing facilities; however, each youth housed in multiple occupancy rooms shall be provided at least 70 square feet of floor space.

B) New detention facility design or planned expansion of existing facilities shall specify detention rooms for single occupancy.

3) Detention Room Equipment

Each room shall be equipped with:

A) A rigidly constructed bed. Mattresses with fire retardant treated cotton filling with a flame retardant, waterproofed, cotton cover are recommended. (Polyurethane mattresses, considered fire retardant, are resistant to fires started from cigarettes, but burn rapidly and emit a highly toxic, possibly lethal gas, when ignited by an open flame, e.g., bits or pieces mixed with shredded newspaper.)

B) A washbasin with piped hot and cold water. A supply of disposable drinking cups shall be provided if the washbasin is not drinking fountain equipped.

C) A toilet.

D) Illumination sufficient to ensure a comfortable reading level. (Thirty foot-candles, three feet above the floor.) Light fixture shall be recessed and tamperproof.

4) Detention Room Level

Detention rooms shall be located above ground level.

5) Living Area

A living area containing no less than 30 square feet per youth must be provided in conjunction with each cluster of detention rooms. This standard is waived for existing facilities.

A) Each living area shall be equipped with tables and chairs. Seating shall be provided for each youth.

B) Radio and television equipment shall be provided.

C) A bulletin board shall be provided.

D) A cold water drinking fountain shall be provided.

E) One shower head for each six occupants shall be provided.

6) Dangerous Items

Items adaptable for use as a weapon, i.e., plumbing, conduit, heating equipment, etc., shall not be accessible to youth.

7) Viewing Devices

There shall be no viewing devices, e.g., peep holes, one-way vision mirrors, of which youth are not aware.

8) Ventilation

The facility shall be comfortably heated and cooled according to the season with a system designed to eliminate disagreeable odors and to routinely provide temperatures within the normal comfort zone.

9) Compliance

All requirements of a physical nature shall be complied with by the following dates:

A) Facilities built in 1950 or before shall be in compliance by January 1, 1986.

B) Facilities built between 1951-1970 shall be in compliance by January 1, 1990.

C) Facilities built between 1971-1979 shall be in compliance by January 1, 1995.

D) Facilities built after 1979 and facilities currently under construction must comply. However, if the Department of Corrections has previously given written approval for final architectural plans for new construction or remodeling, new standards of a physical nature will not be enforced.

E) Those noncompliances relating to physical conditions which adversely affect the treatment of youth with respect to their health and safety may be considered for further action under the provisions of Illinois Revised Statutes (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1987 Supp., ch. 38, par. 1003-15-2(b)).

10) Variances

Variances connected with physical requirements may be granted by the Director of the Department of Corrections for existing facilities. Variance expiration dates will be determined at the time granted. Variance requests of an administrative nature will not be granted. In determining whether to grant a variance, the Department will consider, among other factors, the nature of the standard, previous noncompliance, the cost, the population, the alternative means of complying with the intent of the standard, the consequences if the variance is not granted, and the safety and security of the facility or individuals.

A) The variance request must be in writing and pertain to a specific standard. The request must describe the reasons for the variance; the period of time for the variance; any hardship the facility might experience by complying with the standard; plans to be implemented to eventually comply with the particular standard; and a statement that the variance would not adversely affect the health and safety of detainees or security of the facility. All these criteria will be considered in arriving at a decision.

B) The approval or denial of a variance request will be returned by letter to the requesting governmental agency.

C) The Director of the Department of Corrections, at his discretion, may grant a renewal of the variance provided documentation is received from the governing body which indicates a good faith effort on their part to effect necessary actions to comply with the standard in question.

D) A permanent variance, depending on the circumstances, may be granted.

c) Recommendations

1) Detention rooms should contain a metal shelf and mirror, anchored to the wall.

2) Water shutoff valves should be available to the staff.

3) Water for showers should be thermostatically regulated.

(Source: Amended at 12 Ill. Reg. 12340, effective October 1, 1988)