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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

The Committee on Criminal Justice (Bracy) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Subsections (1), (2), and (4) of section
944.705, Florida Statutes, are amended and a new subsection (7)
is added to that section to read:

944.705 Release orientation program.—

(1) The department shall provide participation in a
standardized release orientation program to every eligible



654530

11 inmate. The program must consist of at least 200 hours of
12 instruction time and begin 360 days prior to the inmate's
13 release.

14 (2) The release orientation program instruction must
15 include, but is not limited to:

- 16 (a) Employment skills.
- 17 (b) Money management skills.
- 18 (c) Personal development and planning.
- 19 (d) Special needs.
- 20 (e) Community reentry concerns.
- 21 (f) Community reentry support.
- 22 (g) Housing placement information.
- 23 (h) Job search assistance.

24 (i) ~~(g)~~ Any other appropriate instruction to ensure the
25 inmate's successful reentry into the community.

26 (4) The department shall conduct a needs assessment of
27 every inmate to determine which, if any, basic support services
28 the inmate needs after release. The department shall assist the
29 inmate in securing the identified basic support services.

30 (7) The department shall notify every inmate of
31 opportunities for industry certifications and job placement in
32 the community in which the inmate will be released.

33 Section 2. Effective upon becoming law, the Legislature
34 finds that an essential element of inmate reentry services and
35 reducing recidivism is providing all inmates with the
36 opportunity to obtain industry certifications and vocational
37 training. The Department of Corrections shall report to the
38 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
39 House of Representatives on the opportunities currently



654530

40 available for all inmates to receive industry certifications and
41 vocational training. The report shall include recommendations on
42 improving and enhancing the availability of industry
43 certifications and vocational training for inmates. The
44 department must provide a written report to the Governor, the
45 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
46 Representatives by October 1, 2018.

47 Section 3. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
48 act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon
49 this act being a law, this act shall take effect October 1,
50 2018.

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52 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

53 And the title is amended as follows:

54 Delete everything before the enacting clause
55 and insert:

56 A bill to be entitled
57 An act relating to inmate reentry services; amending
58 s. 944.705, F.S.; requiring the release orientation
59 program to consist of at least 200 hours of
60 instruction time; requiring the program to begin 360
61 days prior to the inmate's release; requiring housing
62 placement information and job search assistance be
63 included in the release orientation program; requiring
64 the department to assist inmates in securing the
65 identified basic support services; requiring the
66 department to notify every inmate of opportunities for
67 industry certifications and job placement in the
68 community in which the inmate will be released; making



654530

69 Legislative findings; requiring the Department of
70 Corrections to report to the Governor, President of
71 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
72 Representatives on the opportunities available for all
73 inmates to receive industry certifications and
74 vocational training; requiring the report to include
75 recommendations for improvement and availability;
76 requiring the report be provided to the Governor and
77 the Legislature by a specified date; providing
78 effective dates.