HB 1303

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to reentry resource centers; amending
3	s. 944.706, F.S.; providing for the provision of
4	inmate transition services through reentry resource
5	centers; specifying some types of assistance that
6	should be included; specifying a process for provision
7	of such assistance; providing goals for support
8	services for releasees; requiring the department to
9	coordinate with other departments for certain
10	purposes; providing an effective date.
11	
12	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
13	
14	Section 1. Section 944.706, Florida Statutes, is amended
15	to read:
16	944.706 Basic Release assistance.—
17	(1) Any inmate who is being released is eligible for
18	transition assistance. Those inmates released to a detainer are
19	eligible pursuant to s. 944.703. These services should be made
20	available through reentry resource centers that collocate the
21	necessary support services and resources in one location,
22	including services that address the critical needs of released
23	inmates such as housing, employment, family unification, mental
24	and physical health treatment, and probation support. Resource
25	centers shall use the following process:

Page 1 of 3

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

2024

HB 1303

26	(a) Engagement with the inmate, including an initial						
27	conversation to set expectations, discuss employment goals, and						
28	complete appropriate referrals to employment opportunities,						
29	training grants, or other special grants.						
30	(b) Crafting a customized plan for each inmate that may						
31	include enrollment in the system, an initial assessment, and the						
32	fostering of a relationship.						
33	(c) Continued contact or meetings with the inmate, at						
34	least monthly, to begin plan activities, reassess and adjust the						
35	plan as needed, and validate and complete the plan. Such a plan						
36	must include:						
37	1. Career connection activities such as updating a résumé						
38	or applications for target careers and continuing job search and						
39	job development until the inmate is employed.						
40	2. Maintaining at least quarterly contact with a follow-up						
41	specialist for 1 year after the attainment of employment.						
42	(2) The department may contract with the Department of						
43	Children and Families, the Salvation Army, and other public or						
44	private organizations, including faith-based service groups, for						
45	the provision of basic support services for releasees. <u>The goals</u>						
46	for such services include obtaining skills to gain stable						
47	employment, finding permanent housing, and not returning to the						
48	justice system.						
49	(3) The department shall coordinate and arrange with other						
50	departments to facilitate entry into other applicable programs						
I	Page 2 of 3						

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

2024

FLORIDA	HOUSE	OF REPF	RESENTA	TIVES
---------	-------	---------	---------	-------

HB 1303

52 programs, and dislocated worker programs for which an inmate 53 <u>be eligible.</u> 54 (4) (2) The demonstrate shall edent unles for the	<u>may</u>				
54 (4) (4) (3) The department shall adopt rules for the					
development, implementation, and termination of transition					
56 assistance.					
57 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.					
Page 3 of 3					

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.