

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 251

BY SENATOR BARROW

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES. Provides relative to educational programs provided by correctional facilities. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 15:828(A)(3), relative to inmate classification and treatment programs; to
3 provide relative to educational programs provided to persons committed to and in the
4 physical custody of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections; to provide that
5 adult detention facilities offer certain mandatory educational opportunities; and to
6 provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 15:828(A)(3) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §828. Classification and treatment programs; qualified sex offender programs;
10 reports; earned credits

11 A. * * *

12 **(3) All Department of Public Safety and Corrections adult detention**
13 **facilities shall offer both a general equivalency diploma (GED) training**
14 **program and at least one vocational training program as an option for inmates.**
15 **Participation in the Prison Rehabilitation Pilot Program, the Transitional**
16 **Residential Pilot Program, or a regional reentry program shall satisfy this**
17 **requirement if those programs provide both a GED training program and a**

1 **vocational training program.**

2 * * *

3 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
4 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
5 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
6 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
7 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jonathon Wagner.

DIGEST

SB 251 Original 2024 Regular Session Barrow

Present law provides that the secretary of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections must establish programs of classification and diagnosis, education, casework, counseling, and psychotherapy, vocational training and guidance, work, library, and religious services, and such other rehabilitation programs as are consistent with available resources.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that, at minimum, each Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections adult detention facility must offer a general equivalency diploma (GED) training program and at least one vocational training program as optional programs for inmates.

Proposed law provides that a Dept. of Public Safety and Correction adult detention facility may comply with proposed law if it participates in the Prison Rehabilitation Pilot Program, the Transitional Residential Pilot Program, or a regional reentry program that provides both services.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 15:828(A)(3))