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## DIGEST

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HB 1109 Original

2026 Regular Session

Crews

**Abstract:** Modifies the Post-Conviction Veterans Mentor Program and authorizes the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C), in conjunction with the La. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, to establish a pilot program of the Post-Conviction Veterans Mentor Program.

Present law establishes the Post-Conviction Veterans Mentor Program.

Proposed law requires the DPS&C to confer with the La. Dept. of Veterans Affairs to adopt regulations to implement the program.

Proposed law adds certain requirements of emergency medical technicians in order to qualify for the program.

Proposed law creates the Veterans Oversight Committee to provide guidance and supervision to the program.

Proposed law defines "veterans transitional work facility".

Proposed law changes certain requirements for participating in the program, including the following:

- (1) Allows offenders convicted of violent crimes or sex offenses to participate in the program.
- (2) Lowers the minimum age from 40 years to 30 years of age.
- (3) Requires the district attorney of the convicting jurisdiction to consent to the offender's participation in the program if the offender is serving a life sentence.

Proposed law provides that if an offender is serving a life sentence, after five years in the program, he will be granted a pardon hearing by the committee on pardons.

Proposed law provides that if an offender is granted parole pursuant to present law and then his parole is revoked, the offender shall not be eligible to participate in the program a second time.

Proposed law provides that offenders may be subject to electronic monitoring.

Proposed law provides that no offender is guaranteed acceptance into the program based solely on his veteran status.

Proposed law authorizes the DPS&C and La. Dept. of Veterans Affairs to create a pilot program to determine the success of the Post-Conviction Veterans Mentor Program.

Proposed law requires the pilot program to run at least three years and requires a semi-annual report to be submitted to the House Special Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs during each year that the pilot program operates.

(Amends R.S. 15:1199.22(B), 1199.23(2), 1199.24(A)(2)-(10), (B), (C), (D)(1), and (E)-(G), 1199.25, and 1199.26(A)(2); Adds R.S. 15:1199.23(3) and (4), 1199.24(D)(6) and (H), 1199.26(A)(3), and 1199.27; Repeals R.S. 15:1199.24(A)(11) and (12))