(KEYWORD, SUMMARY, AND DIGEST as amended by Senate committee amendments)

CORRECTIONS. Provides for the creation of a pilot program to rehabilitate and support offenders

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DIGEST

Present law provides for reentry programs for offenders housed in the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections facilities.

Proposed law retains these provisions of present law and extends reentry programs to offenders housed in local jails through the creation of the Offender Reentry Support Pilot Program to be operated in Pointe Coupee Parish.

Proposed law provides that the program shall include all of the following components:

(1)   An offender rehabilitation and accountability plan - providing for defined goals following incarceration, resolution of any behavioral issues, and introduction to community leaders where the offender will be released.

(2)   An educational and job skills training plan - providing vocational and on the job training prior to release.

(3)   An employment preparation plan - providing work skills, communication, attitude, and personal responsibility.

(4)   A post-release support plan - including housing plans, health care, insurance, transportation, and substance abuse treatment.

Proposed law provides that the sheriff is authorized to research potential funding sources for the pilot program and obtain funds from any private, federal, state, and local sources available for such initiatives as are developed and undertaken by the program. Such funds shall be used exclusively for the purposes of the program.

Proposed law requires a report from the sheriff to the legislature regarding the implementation of the pilot program.

Proposed law provides for an advisory council appointed by the sheriff to assist with the operation of the program.

(Adds R.S. 15:745-745.3)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

        Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary B to the reengrossed bill

        1.   Adds private sources to the list of possible funding sources for the program.