

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

SCR 11

2020 First Extraordinary Session

Reese

Requests:

- (1) The division of administration, Department of Public Safety and Corrections, corrections services (DOC), La. Workforce Commission, Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS), and private businesses in the state recognize the value that justice-involved persons can bring to the workforce and society, and act with intention to empower, train, and employ such individuals.
- (2) The people of Louisiana recognize that justice-involved persons are doing essential work in response to COVID-19, many justice-involved persons are essential workers responding to COVID-19.
- (3) The DOC and the La. Workforce Commission align on Job Skill Training programs provided by the LCTCS and Industry Based Certification Programs offered in DOC prisons in order to remove licensing barriers or open pathways to licensure for justice-involved persons, both during and after incarceration.
- (4) The DOC continues its work on Reentry Accountability Plans (ReAP), a result of the Louisiana Prisoner Reentry Initiative (LA-PRI), which provides evidence-based guidance to justice-involved persons, corrections services staff, the courts, Parole Board, probation and parole, local jails, and community resource partners.
- (5) The DOC continues working with community resource partners and utilizes technology to facilitate contact with prospective employers and incarcerated persons prior to their release.
- (6) The allocation of state general fund dollars and JRI savings continue and expand the DOC's Reentry Initiatives and Programs in its facilities and incentivize sheriffs with those local facilities with which it contracts to expand their reentry initiatives and evidence-based transitional employment programs to all state prisoners.
- (7) The La. Workforce Commission and DOC create evidence-based transitional employment opportunities for returning citizens and encourage connections between Louisiana businesses and reentry organizations through increased awareness of the commission's bonding capacity and tax credits for businesses which hire justice-involved persons.
- (8) The La. Workforce Commission partners with business trade organizations to increase awareness of incentives offered to businesses hiring justice-involved persons.
- (9) Louisiana employers hire justice-involved persons who are referred by established reentry organizations.
- (10) The division of administration to prioritize and seek to fund reentry initiatives with any future allotments of federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic.