SLS 23RS-2248 ORIGINAL

2023 Regular Session

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 128

BY SENATOR DUPLESSIS

PUBLIC SFTY/CORRECT DEPT. Requests the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to study and make recommendations relative to the provision of valid state identification documents to individuals released from state custody and the inclusion of such documents on LA Wallet.

A RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to study and make
3	recommendations relative to the provision of valid state identification documents to
4	individuals released from state custody and the inclusion of such documents on LA
5	Wallet.
6	WHEREAS, R.S. 15:827.1(A) states that, "It is the intent of the legislature to provide
7	persons released from incarceration with the Department of Public Safety and Corrections
8	with certain fundamental resources in the areas of employment, life skills training, and job
9	placement and with access to as many support services as possible in order to appreciably
10	increase the likelihood of successful reentry into free society and to reduce recidivism"; and
11	WHEREAS, when individuals are released from incarceration, their successful
12	reintegration into civilian life often depends on how quickly they can obtain valid
13	government-issued identification; and
14	WHEREAS, valid government-issued identification is required to secure some of
15	life's basic necessities including housing, employment, medical care, and temporary
16	government assistance programs; and
17	WHEREAS, pursuant to R.S. 15:827.1, transition specialists with the Louisiana
18	Department of Public Safety and Corrections work to assemble or obtain replacements of

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at least two forms of identification, including a birth certificate or a Social Security identification card, to support an individual's release from state correctional facilities; and

WHEREAS, in addition to state correctional facilities, Louisiana incarcerates a large number of individuals in local jails and prisons where similar services may or may not be available.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections to study the feasibility of:

- (1) Embedding within contracts with local jails and prisons expectations that support accessing valid government-issued identification be provided to individuals in state custody who are transitioning out of incarceration and into civil society; and
- (2) Providing individuals transitioning out of incarceration with timely access to government-issued photo identification through LA Wallet as a legal equivalent to a valid physical license or form of identification that can be accepted by state and other agencies to receive essential services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety and Corrections provide a report of its findings and recommendations not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2024 Regular Session.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Dawn Romero Watson.

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Duplessis

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