
DIGEST

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HB 167 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Freiberg

Abstract: Provides for the issuance of certain documentation to inmates before their release from incarceration.

Proposed law requires the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C) to provide an inmate who is housed in a state correctional facility with the relevant documentation to assist with the obtaining of post-release employment when the inmate has designated his intended residence within the state of La. and has been released from a term of imprisonment resulting from the commission of a felony offense.

Proposed law requires the DPS&C to coordinate with the office of motor vehicles (OMV) to do the following:

- (1) Determine whether an inmate has any form of a state ID card or a driver's license and begin the process of gathering the documentation required for the issuance of a special ID card pursuant to present law (R.S. 40:1321) within nine months prior to the release of an inmate.
- (2) Provide a special ID card to any eligible inmate who does not have a current state ID card or driver's license upon his release from custody. Further provides for the manner of issuing, replacing, cancelling, and denying the special ID card.

Proposed law requires the OMV to permit an inmate to use certain documents as a valid form of photo identification in order to obtain a special ID card and determine and assess a reasonable fee for the issuance of the special ID card.

Proposed law defines "master prison record". Provides that a special ID card issued with a master prison record to an inmate is nonrenewable, nontransferable, and valid for a period of six years from the month of issuance.

Proposed law provides relative to funds that the DPS&C may utilize to implement and administer proposed law.

Proposed law applies only to inmates who receive a special ID card pursuant to present law (R.S. 40:1321).

Proposed law requires the DPS&C to provide certain documentation to an inmate for the purpose of assistance with obtaining post-release employment.

Proposed law applies only to inmates who are in the physical custody and control of the department.

(Adds R.S. 15:828.5)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill:

1. Clarify that the documentation provided pursuant to proposed law is for inmates housed in state correctional facilities.
2. Clarify that the copy of the birth certificate that can be provided to obtain a special ID card does not have to be a certified copy.
3. Change the term "time computation record" to "master prison record".
4. Provide that the special ID card is valid for six years, rather than four years.
5. Clarify that proposed law applies only to inmates who are in the physical custody and control of the DPS&C.
6. Require the DPS&C to provide an inmate with a copy of the educational and vocational training credentials or certifications of the inmate earned during incarceration, if applicable, rather than a copy of the inmate's vocational training record.
7. Require the DPS&C to provide the inmate with a copy of his birth certificate, rather than a certified copy, if obtainable.
8. Remove the requirement that the DPS&C provide an inmate with a resume, documentation of a simulated job interview, and notification of the inmate's eligibility to apply for certain occupational licenses or certifications.
9. Remove proposed law relative to certificates of employability regarding admissibility as evidence in certain legal proceedings.
10. Provide that proposed law applies only to inmates who are in the physical custody and control of the DPS&C and who are housed in a state correctional facility.
11. Make technical changes.