SLS 13RS-118 **ORIGINAL**

Regular Session, 2013

SENATE BILL NO. 8

BY SENATOR GALLOT

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

CRIME/PUNISHMENT. Authorizes sheriffs to use prisoners for manual labor upon churches and other religious buildings. (Gov sig)

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 15:708(A)(2), relative to prisons and prisoners; to provide that a criminal sheriff may set a prisoner to work upon any church or other religious building; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 15:708(A)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§708. Labor by prisoners permitted; workday release program; indemnification

A.(1) * * *

(2)**(a)** Whenever a prisoner sentenced to the parish prison of any parish of this state, by any court of competent jurisdiction, or a prisoner in a parish prison awaiting transfer to a state correctional facility shall be willing of his own free will to perform manual labor upon any **religious building,** cemetery**,** or graveyard or work in a solid waste recycling program administered by a state agency or political subdivision and approved by the sheriff, the criminal sheriff may set the prisoner to work upon labor determined by the governing authority of the parishes and the municipal authorities of the towns and cities.

(b) For purposes of this Paragraph, "religious building" means a church,

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synagogue, mosque, or other building or structure used primarily for religious worship.

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Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alden A. Clement, Jr.

DIGEST

Present law provides that whenever a prisoner sentenced to the parish prison or a prisoner in a parish prison awaiting transfer to a state correctional facility is willing of his own free will to perform manual labor upon any cemetery or graveyard or work in a solid waste recycling program administered by a state agency or political subdivision and approved by the sheriff, the criminal sheriff may set the prisoner to work upon labor determined by the governing authority of the parishes and the municipal authorities of the towns and cities.

Proposed law retains present law, and adds religious buildings to the list of places upon which a criminal sheriff may set a willing prisoner to work.

Proposed law defines "religious building" as a church, synagogue, mosque, or other building or structure used primarily for religious worship.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 15:708(A)(2))

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