
DIGEST

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HB 403 Engrossed

2016 Regular Session

Smith

Abstract: Increases membership of the Reentry Advisory Council from 13 to 22 members.

Present law provides for the Reentry Advisory Council and Offender Rehabilitation Workforce Development Act. Further provides for the inmate rehabilitation and workforce development program to be administered by the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections. Provides that the reentry advisory council shall function as an advisory body for DPS&C in administering the program.

Present law provides the following additional duties:

- (1) Identify methods to improve collaboration and coordination of offender transition services, including cross-agency training and information sharing that will help to improve outcomes for offenders.
- (2) Establish a means to share data, research, and measurement resources in relation to reentry initiatives with relevant agencies.
- (3) Identify funding areas that should be coordinated across agencies to maximize the delivery of state and community-based services as they relate to reentry.
- (4) Identify areas in which improved collaboration and coordination of programs and activities will result in increased effectiveness or efficiency of service delivery.
- (5) Promote areas of research and program evaluation that can be coordinated across agencies with an emphasis on applying evidence-based practices to support treatment and intervention programs for offenders.
- (6) Conduct a review of existing policies and practices and make specific recommendations to the legislature for systemic improvement.
- (7) Create and support local reentry councils in collaboration with community stakeholders throughout the state.
- (8) Commence offender reentry public education campaigns.
- (9) Enhance the role of faith and community-based services for formerly incarcerated persons.

- (10) Provide coordination of reentry initiatives across the state and ensure eligibility for Second Chance Act grant opportunities and other reentry grant opportunities.

Present law provides that the council consists of 13 members and that a quorum consists of seven.

Proposed law changes the number of council members from 13 to 22 members and provides that 12 members constitute a quorum.

Proposed law provides for the nominating and appointing authority of the additional members.

(Amends R.S. 15:1199.4(C), (D)(intro. para.), (E)(intro. para.) and (6), and (G); Adds R.S. 15:1199.4(D)(8), (9), and (10) and (E)(7)-(12))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Adds an additional member by allowing the secretary of DPS&C to appoint a member of its medical staff.
2. Changes proposed law appointment for the Louisiana Housing Corporation from chairman of the board to executive director of the board.

3. Adds the Louisiana Inter-faith Conference as an alternative nominating organization to the Louisiana Chaplains' Association.
4. Changes the quorum requirement due to the additional members.