

By the Committee on Criminal Justice; and Senator Futch

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to the Inmate Welfare Trust
Fund; amending s. 945.215, F.S.; prohibiting
use of funds for certain purposes; authorizing
use of funds for certain purposes; providing an
effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (1) of
section 945.215, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

945.215 Inmate welfare and employee benefit trust
funds.--

(1) INMATE WELFARE TRUST FUND; DEPARTMENT OF
CORRECTIONS.--

(b) Funds in the Inmate Welfare Trust Fund must be
used exclusively for the following purposes at correctional
facilities operated directly by the department:

1. To operate inmate canteens and vending machines,
including purchasing items for resale at inmate canteens and
vending machines; employing personnel and inmates to manage,
supervise, and operate inmate canteens and vending machines;
and covering other operating and fixed capital outlay expenses
associated with operating inmate canteens and vending
machines;

2. To employ personnel to manage and supervise the
proceeds from telephone commissions;

3. To develop, implement, and maintain the medical
copayment accounting system;

4. To provide literacy programs, vocational training
programs, and educational programs that comply with standards

1 of the Department of Education, including employing personnel
2 and covering other operating and fixed capital outlay expenses
3 associated with providing such programs;

4 5. To operate inmate chapels, faith-based programs,
5 visiting pavilions, visiting services and programs, family
6 services and programs, libraries, and law libraries, including
7 employing personnel and covering other operating and fixed
8 capital outlay expenses associated with operating inmate
9 chapels, faith-based programs, visiting pavilions, visiting
10 services and programs, family services and programs,
11 libraries, and law libraries;

12 6. To provide for expenses associated with various
13 inmate clubs;

14 7. To provide for expenses associated with legal
15 services for inmates;

16 8. To provide inmate substance abuse treatment
17 programs and transition and life skills training programs,
18 including employing personnel and covering other operating and
19 fixed capital outlay expenses associated with providing such
20 programs;-

21 9. To provide for the purchase, rental, maintenance,
22 and repair of electronic or audiovisual equipment, unless
23 otherwise prohibited by this chapter; and

24 10. To provide for the purchase, rental, maintenance,
25 and repair of wellness equipment, unless otherwise prohibited
26 by this chapter.

27 (d) Funds in the Inmate Welfare Trust Fund or any
28 other fund may not be used to purchase weight-training
29 equipment, to purchase cable-television ~~cable television~~
30 service for recreation purposes, or to rent or purchase
31 videocassettes, videocassette recorders, or other audiovisual

1 or electronic media or equipment used primarily for recreation
2 purposes. This paragraph does not preclude the purchase or
3 rental of electronic or audiovisual equipment or services for
4 inmate training or educational programs.

5 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

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7 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
8 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
9 Senate Bill 560

- 10 - Prohibits the purchase of all types of audio-visual or
11 electronic equipment and media from the Inmate Welfare
12 Trust Fund or other funds if used primarily for
13 recreation purchases, but allows such purchase or rental
14 for other purposes. The bill limited the prohibition to
15 videocassettes, videocassette recorders, and similar
16 media and equipment (e.g. DVD discs and DVD players),
17 but did not include language authorizing purchase or
18 rental from the Inmate Welfare Trust Fund for
19 non-recreation purposes.
- 20 - Authorizes use of the Inmate Welfare Trust Fund for
21 repair and maintenance of audio-visual and electronic
22 equipment. The bill did not include language authorizing
23 such use of the Inmate Welfare Trust Fund.
- 24 - Does not prohibit purchase of cable television service
25 from funds other than the Inmate Welfare Trust Fund for
26 inmate training or recreation programs. The bill
27 prohibited purchase of cable television service from any
28 fund for any purpose.
- 29 - Authorizes use of the Inmate Welfare Trust Fund to
30 purchase, rent, maintain and repair wellness equipment.
31 The bill did not include such authorizing language.