



HB 1921

2003

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A bill to be entitled  
 An act relating to the Department of Corrections; amending  
 s. 944.279, F.S.; providing that disciplinary procedures  
 for frivolous filings by a prisoner are applicable to a  
 criminal proceeding or collateral criminal proceeding  
 filed on or after a specified date; amending s. 944.7065,  
 F.S.; revising requirements for the transition course  
 required for inmates who are released from the Department  
 of Corrections and reenter the community; providing an  
 effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 944.279, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 to read:

944.279 Disciplinary procedures applicable to prisoner for  
 filing frivolous or malicious actions or bringing false  
 information before court.--

(1) At any time, and upon its own motion or on motion of a  
 party, a court may conduct an inquiry into whether any action or  
 appeal brought by a prisoner was brought in good faith. A  
 prisoner who is found by a court to have brought a frivolous or  
 malicious suit, action, claim, proceeding, or appeal in any  
 court of this state or in any federal court, which is filed  
 after June 30, 1996, or who knowingly or with reckless disregard  
 for the truth brought false information or evidence before the  
 court, is subject to disciplinary procedures pursuant to the  
 rules of the Department of Corrections. The court shall issue a  
 written finding and direct that a certified copy be forwarded to  
 the appropriate institution or facility for disciplinary



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31 procedures pursuant to the rules of the department as provided  
 32 in s. 944.09.

33 (2) Effective for filings on or after June 30, 2003, this  
 34 section shall ~~does not~~ apply to a criminal proceeding or a  
 35 collateral criminal proceeding.

36 (3) For purposes of this section, "prisoner" means a  
 37 person who is convicted of a crime and is incarcerated for that  
 38 crime or who is being held in custody pending extradition or  
 39 sentencing.

40 Section 2. Section 944.7065, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 41 to read:

42 944.7065 Transition course for inmates.--In an effort to  
 43 ensure that inmates released from the Department of Corrections  
 44 successfully reenter the community, beginning December 1, 2002,  
 45 an each inmate who meets the criteria established ~~released from~~  
 46 ~~incarceration~~ by the department must complete a ~~100-hour~~  
 47 comprehensive transition course that covers job readiness and  
 48 life management skills. This requirement does not apply to  
 49 inmates released in an emergency situation.

50 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.