

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to prison industries; creating the Prison  
 3           Industries Task Force within the Office of Legislative  
 4           Services; requiring the task force to determine how well  
 5           the prison industries program has fulfilled its statutory  
 6           mission and purpose; providing for membership; requiring  
 7           the task force to hold a minimum number of public  
 8           meetings; providing reimbursement for per diem and travel  
 9           expenses; requiring the Legislative Committee on  
 10          Intergovernmental Relations to provide staff support for  
 11          the task force; specifying the duties of the task force  
 12          with respect to taking testimony; requiring the task force  
 13          to submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature;  
 14          abolishing the task force on a specified date; amending s.  
 15          946.505, F.S.; clarifying the state's reversionary  
 16          interest in the facilities, property, and assets of the  
 17          corporation operating a correctional work program;  
 18          providing an effective date.

19  
 20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 22           Section 1. Prison Industries Task Force.--  
 23           (1)(a) There is created within the Office of Legislative  
 24           Services the Prison Industries Task Force for the purpose of  
 25           reviewing how well the prison industries program has fulfilled  
 26           its statutory missions and purposes and whether the statutory  
 27           missions of the prison industries program are feasible and  
 28           relevant today and for the future.

29           (b) The task force shall consist of the following 13  
30 members:

31           1. The Secretary of Corrections and two wardens of prisons  
32 that have prison industries programs.

33           2. A representative from the Agency for Workforce  
34 Innovation.

35           3. A representative from the Office of Workforce Education  
36 within the Department of Education.

37           4. A representative from Florida TaxWatch.

38           5. A member of the Senate, appointed by the President of  
39 the Senate.

40           6. A member of the House of Representatives, appointed by  
41 the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

42           7. A representative from the board of directors of the  
43 private nonprofit prison industries corporation, as defined in  
44 s. 946.503, Florida Statutes.

45           8. A representative from a local governmental entity that  
46 purchases products that are produced by prison industries.

47           9. A representative from a private industry that regularly  
48 employs former inmates.

49           10. A representative from the academic community who has  
50 expertise in research concerning the reentry of former prisoners  
51 into society and the employment of former felons.

52           11. A former inmate who worked in the prison industries  
53 program.

54           (c) The President of Senate and the Speaker of the House  
55 of Representatives shall jointly appoint the members of the task  
56 force described in subparagraphs (b)7.-11. by July 1, 2005.

57 (d) The task force shall hold its first meeting by July  
58 15, 2005, and the representative of Florida TaxWatch shall serve  
59 as chairperson.

60 (e) All recommendations of the task force shall be by  
61 majority vote.

62 (f) The task force shall meet at the call of its  
63 chairperson and shall conduct at least three public meetings.

64 (g) Members of the task force shall serve without  
65 compensation, but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and  
66 travel expenses in accordance with s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.

67 (h) The Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental  
68 Relations shall provide staff support for the task force.

69 (2)(a) The task force shall receive testimony from the  
70 Auditor General, the Chief Inspector General, the Office of  
71 Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, PRIDE,  
72 and other appropriate officials to address the following:

73 1. Are the statutory missions as defined in s. 946.501(2),  
74 Florida Statutes, of the prison industries program still valid?

75 2. Should other valid missions be included within the  
76 program?

77 3. How do the current or recommended missions conflict  
78 with any other valid missions?

79 4. Should the missions be ranked in order of priority and,  
80 if so, to what extent can accomplishment of a higher-priority  
81 mission be reduced in order to accomplish a lower-priority  
82 mission?

83 5. Is fulfillment of the legislative finding in s.  
84 946.501(3), Florida Statutes, that it is in the best interest of

85 the state, inmates, and the general public to duplicate as  
86 closely as possible free-enterprise production and service  
87 operations also the most effective manner in which to accomplish  
88 the missions of the prison industries program?

89 6. Should the structure for managing the correctional work  
90 program be changed in order to facilitate accomplishing the  
91 missions of the program?

92 7. Is operating the prison industries program  
93 independently of state government the most effective manner in  
94 which to accomplish its valid mission?

95 8. To what extent can PRIDE fulfill the legislative intent  
96 stated in s. 946.502(6), Florida Statutes, that prison  
97 industries programs use inmates in all levels of custody, with  
98 specific emphasis on reducing idleness among inmates in close  
99 custody?

100 9. To what extent has privatization of governmental  
101 functions and changing markets reduced sales by PRIDE and  
102 therefore impeded its ability to expand prison industry  
103 training?

104 10. What creative strategies could enhance the prison  
105 industries program's ability to meet its valid missions?

106 (b) The task force shall submit a report of its findings  
107 and recommendations to the Governor, the President of the  
108 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by  
109 February 15, 2006.

110 (3) All meetings of the task force and all business of the  
111 task force for which reimbursement may be requested must be  
112 concluded before the report is filed. The task force is

113 abolished July 1, 2006.

114 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 946.505, Florida  
 115 Statutes, is amended to read:

116 946.505 Reversion upon dissolution of corporation or  
 117 termination of lease.--

118 (1) In the event the corporation is dissolved or its lease  
 119 of any correctional work program expires or is otherwise  
 120 terminated, all property relating to such correctional work  
 121 program which ceases to function because of such termination or  
 122 dissolution, including all buildings, land, furnishings,  
 123 equipment, and other chattels and assets, whether originally  
 124 leased from the department or, ~~as well as any~~ subsequently  
 125 constructed or otherwise acquired ~~facilities in connection with~~  
 126 ~~its continued operation of that program~~, automatically reverts  
 127 to full ownership by the department unless the corporation  
 128 intends to use ~~utilize~~ such property in another correctional  
 129 work program. Such a reversionary ownership interest of the  
 130 state in any and all such after-acquired facilities, property,  
 131 and assets by the corporation is in furtherance of the goals  
 132 established in s. 946.502(4), and such a present ownership  
 133 interest by the state is a continuing and insurable state  
 134 interest.

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