

By the Committee on Criminal Justice; and Senators Wilson,  
Lawson, Miller and Hill

591-2008-05

1                                   A bill to be entitled

2                   An act relating to the restoration of civil

3                   rights; requiring that the administrator of a

4                   county detention facility provide an

5                   application form for the restoration of civil

6                   rights to a prisoner who has been convicted of

7                   a felony and is serving a sentence in that

8                   facility; authorizing the use of volunteers to

9                   assist the prisoner in completing the

10                  application; providing that this section does

11                  not apply to prisoners who are transferred to

12                  the Department of Corrections; providing an

13                  effective date.

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

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17                  Section 1. Procedure for requesting restoration of

18 civil rights of county prisoners convicted of felonies.--

19                  (1) With respect to a person who has been convicted of

20 a felony and is serving a sentence in a county detention

21 facility, the administrator of the county detention facility:

22                  (a) Shall provide to the prisoner, at least 2 weeks

23 before discharge, if possible, an application form obtained

24 from the Parole Commission which the prisoner must complete in

25 order to begin the process of having his or her civil rights

26 restored.

27                  (b) May allow volunteers to be used to assist the

28 prisoner in completing the application.

29                  (2) This section does not apply to prisoners who are

30 discharged from a county detention facility to the custody or

31 control of the Department of Corrections.

1           Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

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3                   STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
4                   COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
5                   Senate Bill 514

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6 -       The Committee Substitute removes the responsibility for  
7       initiating the restoration of civil rights for prisoners  
8       from the county commission and places it with the  
9       administrator of the county detention facility.

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10 -       If possible, the administrator is to provide a prisoner  
11       with a restoration of civil rights application at least  
12       two weeks before the prisoner's discharge. The  
13       application form is provided to the administrator from  
14       the Parole Commission.

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15 -       The detention facility administrator is permitted to use  
16       volunteers to assist prisoners in completing their  
17       applications.

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18 -       These provisions do not apply to prisoners who are being  
19       discharged from the county facilities to the control of  
20       the Department of Corrections.

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