

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Parole Commission; amending s.
 3 947.01, F.S.; deleting an obsolete provision; revising the
 4 number of commission members; amending s. 947.02, F.S.;
 5 requiring the commission's membership to reflect at all
 6 times the diversity of the population of this state;
 7 amending s. 947.13, F.S.; requiring the commission to
 8 provide transition assistance to eligible offenders;
 9 providing an appropriation; providing an effective date.

10

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

12

13 Section 1. Section 947.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 14 read:

15 947.01 Parole Commission; creation; number of members.--A
 16 Parole Commission is created to consist of five ~~six~~ members who
 17 are residents of the state. ~~Effective July 1, 1996, the~~
 18 ~~membership of the commission shall be three members.~~

19 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 947.02, Florida
 20 Statutes, is amended to read:

21 947.02 Parole Commission; members, appointment.--

22 (1) Except as provided in s. 947.021, the members of the
 23 Parole Commission shall be appointed by the Governor and Cabinet
 24 from a list of eligible applicants submitted by a parole
 25 qualifications committee. The appointments of members of the
 26 commission shall be certified to the Senate by the Governor and
 27 Cabinet for confirmation, and the membership of the commission
 28 shall at all times reflect the diversity of the population of

HB 785

2008

29 this state ~~include representation from minority persons as~~
 30 ~~defined in s. 288.703.~~

31 Section 3. Paragraph (i) is added to subsection (1) of
 32 section 947.13, Florida Statutes, to read:

33 947.13 Powers and duties of commission.--

34 (1) The commission shall have the powers and perform the
 35 duties of:

36 (i) Providing transition assistance to eligible offenders
 37 under the commission's purview within appropriated funds in
 38 order to support the goals of reducing recidivism and promoting
 39 successful reentry of offenders into society.

40 Section 4. For the 2008-2009 fiscal year, the sum of
 41 \$1,952,958 in general revenue funds is appropriated to the
 42 Parole Commission and 12 FTE positions are authorized to
 43 implement the provisions of this act.

44 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.