

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to parole eligibility; amending s.
 3 947.002, F.S.; revising legislative intent concerning
 4 the granting of parole; creating s. 947.136, F.S.;
 5 requiring the Florida Commission on Offender Review
 6 and the Department of Corrections to jointly
 7 administer a voluntary long-term inmate program using
 8 existing resources; requiring the program to provide
 9 evidence-based programming to certain inmates;
 10 establishing eligibility for referral for
 11 participation in the program; providing requirements
 12 for program completion; providing that inmates may be
 13 removed from the program under certain circumstances;
 14 requiring the commission to develop guidelines for
 15 release of inmates; requiring a certificate of
 16 completion upon successful completion; providing that
 17 successful completion of the program does not
 18 guarantee parole; requiring rulemaking; providing an
 19 effective date.

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

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 23 Section 1. Subsection (6) is added to section 947.002,
 24 Florida Statutes, to read:

25 947.002 Intent.—

26 (6) The commission shall consider an inmate's
 27 institutional achievements, disciplinary report, and all
 28 indications of risk to the public in the decision to parole an
 29 inmate from the incarceration portion of the inmate's sentence.

30 Section 2. Section 947.136, Florida Statutes, is created
 31 to read:

32 947.136 Long-term inmate program.—

33 (1) The commission and the department shall use existing
 34 resources to jointly administer a long-term inmate program,
 35 housed within the department, for inmates who are eligible for
 36 parole under this chapter to prepare such inmates for
 37 reintegration into the community.

38 (2) The long-term inmate program is a voluntary program
 39 that provides evidence-based programming to inmates who are
 40 within 3 years of a presumptive parole release date as
 41 established by the commission under s. 947.172.

42 (3) Inmates must be referred by the commission for
 43 participation in the long-term inmate program before the
 44 department places the inmate into the program. An inmate who
 45 meets all of the following criteria may be referred by the
 46 commission for placement into the long-term inmate program. The
 47 inmate:

48 (a) Must not have factors, as identified in rule, that
 49 would preclude placement at an institution operating a long-term
 50 inmate program.

51 (b) Must be serving a parole-eligible sentence. Inmates
52 servng parole-eligible sentences who are also serving a parole-
53 ineligible sentence may be considered for participation in the
54 long-term inmate program on a case-by-case basis. Priority for
55 participation in the long-term inmate program shall be given to
56 inmates serving only parole-eligible sentences.

57 (4) To successfully complete the long-term inmate program,
58 inmates participating in the program must, at a minimum:

59 (a) Complete at least 250 hours of community service
60 projects, as approved by the department.

61 (b) Participate in at least 100 hours of enrichment
62 programs, as defined by rule.

63 (c) Complete an evidence-based curriculum as provided by
64 rule that, at a minimum, addresses:

- 65 1. Anger management.
- 66 2. Criminal thinking.
- 67 3. Educational and vocational needs.
- 68 4. Family relationships.
- 69 5. Lifestyle and wellness.
- 70 6. Substance use disorder treatment.
- 71 7. Victim impact.

72 (5) Inmates participating in the long-term inmate program
73 are expected to perform their duties and assignments as
74 instructed by their assignment supervisor. Inmates who fail to
75 complete duties and assignments as instructed may be removed

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76 | from the program.

77 | (6) The commission shall adopt guidelines as to what the
78 | inmate must do to be eligible for release, including how many
79 | years of the inmate's sentence must be served and how many
80 | classes and programs he or she must complete, based on the
81 | charges for which the inmate was convicted.

82 | (7) Upon successful completion of the long-term inmate
83 | program, an inmate shall be awarded a certificate of completion.
84 | Successful completion of the program does not guarantee that an
85 | inmate will be paroled and program participation may not extend
86 | the length of the inmate's sentence.

87 | (8) The commission and the department shall adopt rules as
88 | necessary to implement the long-term inmate program.

89 | Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.