

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BILL ANALYSIS

This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

BILL #: [CS/HB 195](#)

TITLE: Education in Correctional Facilities for Licensed Professions

SPONSOR(S): Chambliss and Plakon

COMPANION BILL: [SB 472](#) (Truenow)

LINKED BILLS: None

RELATED BILLS: None

Committee References

[Criminal Justice](#)

17 Y, 0 N



[Industries & Professional
Activities](#)

15 Y, 0 N, As CS



[Judiciary](#)

SUMMARY

Effect of the Bill:

HB 195 requires the Department of Corrections (DOC) to coordinate with the relevant professional boards within the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR), or DBPR when there is no board, to ensure that inmates who successfully complete classes that are required for licensure in such professions will receive credit towards licensure.

Fiscal or Economic Impact:

The bill may have an indeterminate fiscal impact to DOC and DBPR in developing the plan required by the bill. However, the cost of implementing the bill will likely be absorbed within existing resources. To the extent that the bill allows more inmates to meet educational requirements for professional licensure while incarcerated, the bill may provide inmates with the opportunity to be licensed by DBPR regulated professional boards more quickly upon their release.

[JUMP TO](#)

[SUMMARY](#)

[ANALYSIS](#)

[RELEVANT INFORMATION](#)

[BILL HISTORY](#)

ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

The bill requires the [Correctional Education Program](#) (CEP) within the Department of Corrections (DOC) to design and implement a plan, in conjunction with the relevant professional boards within the [Department of Business and Professional Regulation](#) (DBPR), or DBPR when there is no board, to ensure that inmates who successfully complete classes that meet the curriculum requirements for professional licensure receive credit towards applicable DBPR licensure requirements. (Section [1](#))

The effective date of the bill is July 1, 2025. (Section [2](#))

FISCAL OR ECONOMIC IMPACT:

STATE GOVERNMENT:

The bill may have an indeterminate fiscal impact on state government by requiring DOC to coordinate with the relevant professional boards or DBPR to ensure that inmates receive credit towards professional licensure for successfully completing vocational courses. However, the cost of implementing the bill will likely be absorbed within existing resources.

PRIVATE SECTOR:

By improving coordination of vocational education programs and professional licensure requirements, the bill may have an indeterminate economic impact on the private sector by allowing more inmates to meet educational

STORAGE NAME: h0195c.IPA

DATE: 3/7/2025

requirements for licensure while incarcerated. As such, the bill may provide inmates with the opportunity to be licensed by DBPR regulated professional boards more quickly upon their release.

RELEVANT INFORMATION

SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

[Correctional Education Program](#)

The Correctional Education Program (CEP) within the Department of Corrections (DOC) provides educational programming to inmates in state correctional facilities.¹ The duties of the CEP, in part, include:

- Developing guidelines for collecting education-related information during the inmate reception process and disseminating such information to DOC classification staff.
- Monitoring and assessing all inmate education program services.
- Approving educational programs of the appropriate levels and types in correctional institutions and developing admission procedures for such programs.
- Developing a written procedure for selecting programs to add to or delete from the vocational curriculum and periodically reevaluating such programs.²

The CEP provides 92 career and technical education courses in 37 vocational trades that are aligned to Florida's in-demand occupations.³ Career and technical education courses vary by facility and may include education relating to barbering, cosmetology, electrical contracting, landscaping, plumbing, and HVAC contracting.⁴

[Department of Business and Professional Regulation](#)

The Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) regulates and licenses specified businesses and professionals in Florida.⁵ DBPR provides administrative support to professional boards that are responsible for the licensure of applicants, promulgation of rules governing the applicable profession, and the discipline of a licensee.⁶ Examples of relevant professional boards under DBPR include the Barbers' Board, the Construction Industry Licensing Board, the Board of Cosmetology, and the Electrical Contractors' Licensing Board.⁷

RECENT LEGISLATION:

YEAR	BILL #	HOUSE SPONSOR(S)	SENATE SPONSOR	OTHER INFORMATION
2024	CS/HB 133	Chambliss and Plakon	Stewart	The Governor vetoed the bill on June 26, 2024.

OTHER RESOURCES:

[Florida Department of Corrections – Career and Technical Education Programs](#)

¹ [S. 944.801, F.S.](#)

² [S. 944.801\(3\), F.S.](#)

³ Florida Department of Corrections, *Bureau of Education*, <https://www.fdc.myflorida.com/programs/bureau-of-education> (last visited Feb. 12, 2025).

⁴ Florida Department of Corrections, *Annual Report*, https://fdc-media.ccplatform.net/content/download/3089/file/Annual_Report_22-23_V10.pdf (last visited Feb. 12, 2025).

⁵ [S. 20.165, F.S.](#)

⁶ [S. 455.203, F.S.](#) Department of Business and Professional Regulation, *Division of Professions*, <https://www2.myfloridalicense.com/division-of-professions/#1500572400331-dbbb2508-c03f> (last visited Feb. 12, 2025).

⁷ [S. 20.165\(4\)\(a\), F.S.](#)

BILL HISTORY

COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
Criminal Justice Subcommittee	17 Y, 0 N	2/12/2025	Hall	Padgett
Industries & Professional Activities Subcommittee	15 Y, 0 N, As CS	3/6/2025	Anstead	Thompson
THE CHANGES ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE:	Clarified that the Department of Corrections should coordinate with DBPR when there is not a specific licensing board to coordinate with.			
Judiciary Committee				

THIS BILL ANALYSIS HAS BEEN UPDATED TO INCORPORATE ALL OF THE CHANGES DESCRIBED ABOVE.
