

Act 429 of the 1989 Regular Session.

Act 429

SB265

By: Senator Bookout

"AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE ANNOTATED 12-29-202 TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL MERITORIOUS GOOD TIME FOR PRISONERS AWAITING TRANSFER TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Annotated 12-29-202 is amended by adding a new subsection as follows:

"(g) Any person who is awaiting disposition of charges or who is sentenced by a circuit court to the Department of Correction and is awaiting transfer to the Department of Correction may be awarded additional meritorious good time upon their arrival at the Department of Correction for the successful completion of a Graduate Equivalent Degree (G.E.D.), successful completion of a substance abuse treatment program, successful completion of a Vocational-Technical program or course, or successful completion of college courses, provided the program or course has been approved and certified by the Boards of Correction. The meritorious good time awarded pursuant to this subsection shall be at the same rate as prescribed for similar programs under the guidelines established by the Board of Correction.

SECTION 2. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 3. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that meritorious good time should be awarded to inmates for the successful completion of a graduate equivalent degree, substance abuse treatment program, vocational-technical education courses or college courses; that this Act would encourage inmates to participate in such programs by awarding them meritorious good time; that until this Act becomes effective such incentives will not be applicable; and that this Act should therefore be given immediate effect. Therefore an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

APPROVED: March 9, 1989

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