

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **78th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1991**

A Bill

SENATE BILL 290

4 **By: Senators Bookout and Dowd**

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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 12-29-202; AND FOR OTHER
9 PURPOSES."

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

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13 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 12-29-202 is hereby amended to read as
14 follows:

15 "12-29-202. Classification committee - Classifications - Award of
16 additional good time.

17 (a) There is established a classification committee to be defined by
18 administrative regulations approved by the Board of Correction.

19 (b) Members of the committee will be selected by wardens or supervisors
20 of the various units or centers of the department per the current department
21 regulation governing their selection and approval by the director.

22 (c) This committee shall meet as often as necessary to classify the
23 inmates into four (4) classes according to behavior, good discipline, medical
24 condition, and job responsibility.

25 (d) (1) Inmates in Class I shall be allowed to earn thirty (30) days
26 reduction for each month served in the Department of Correction;

27 (2) Those in Class II shall be allowed to earn twenty (20) days
28 reduction for each month served in the Department of Correction;

29 (3) Those in Class III shall be allowed to earn eight (8) days
30 for each month served in the Department of Correction;

31 (4) Those in Class IV shall not be entitled to earn meritorious
32 good time.

33 (e) Inmates may be reclassified as often as the committee deems
34 necessary and/or in accordance with current department regulations to carry
35 out the purpose of this subchapter and to maintain good discipline, order, and

1 efficiency at the institutions.

2 (f) Upon recommendation of the classification committee, the director
3 may recommend to the Board of Correction additional days of meritorious good
4 time awards for completion of rehabilitative programs, special jobs performed,
5 and/or as a result of heroic acts or other exceptional circumstances. The
6 Board of Correction shall give special consideration in awarding such good
7 time to inmate participation in education programs offered by the Department
8 of Correction. These awards will be given as defined by administrative
9 regulation approved by the Board of Correction.

10 (g) (1) Any person who is awaiting disposition of charges or who is
11 sentenced by a circuit court to the Department of Correction and is awaiting
12 transfer to the Department of Correction may be awarded additional meritorious
13 good time upon their arrival at the Department of Correction for the
14 successful completion of a Graduate Equivalent Degree (G.E.D.), successful
15 completion of a substance-abuse treatment program, successful completion of a
16 vocational-technical program or course, or successful completion of college
17 courses, provided the program or course has been approved and certified by the
18 Board of Correction.

19 (2) The meritorious good time awarded pursuant to this subsection
20 shall be at the same rate as prescribed for similar programs under the
21 guidelines established by the Board of Correction."
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23 SECTION 2. CODE. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent
24 nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas
25 Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.
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27 SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this Act or the
28 application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such
29 invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Act which
30 can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this
31 end the provisions of this Act are declared to be severable.
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33 SECTION 4. GENERAL REPEALER. All laws and parts of laws in conflict
34 with this Act are hereby repealed.
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1 SECTION 5. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General
2 Assembly that rewards for rehabilitation are important tools and that this Act
3 provides such rewards and should be given immediate effect. Therefore, an
4 immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full
5 force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

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/s/Bookout, et al