

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1450

5 By: Representative Copeland
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING THE AWARD OF MERITORIOUS GOOD TIME
9 CREDITS TO AN INMATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION;
10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

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13 CONCERNING THE AWARD OF MERITORIOUS GOOD
14 TIME CREDITS TO AN INMATE IN THE
15 DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 12-29-202(d), concerning the award of
22 meritorious good time credits, is amended to read as follows:

23 (d)(1) Upon recommendation of the committee, the Director of the
24 Department of Correction may award an amount of meritorious good time
25 sufficient to reduce incarceration time by up to ninety (90) days, not to
26 exceed a total of three hundred sixty (360) days, for each successful
27 completion of a:

28 (A) State-sponsored general education development
29 certificate program;

30 (B) Vocational program for which certification is awarded;

31 (C) Drug or alcohol treatment program offered at a
32 Department of Correction facility; or

33 (D) Pre-release and other rehabilitative programs or
34 assignments as approved by the Board of Corrections.

35 (2)(A) The director also shall award additional meritorious good
36 time in the following amounts to an inmate who maintains a Class I



1 classification:

2 (i) One hundred eighty (180) days for the successful
 3 completion of a state-sponsored general education development certificate
 4 program;

5 (ii) One hundred eighty (180) days for successful
 6 completion of a vocational program for which certification is awarded;

7 (iii) Ninety (90) days for not abusing infirmary
 8 privileges by pretending to be ill to avoid a job assignment, as determined
 9 by the director, for a period of one hundred fifty (150) days;

10 (iv) Ninety (90) days for remaining free from being
 11 written up for a disciplinary violation for a period of one hundred eighty
 12 (180) days;

13 (v) Three hundred sixty five (365) days for saving
 14 the life of an employee of the Department of Correction or another inmate, as
 15 determined by the director; and

16 (vi) Up to ninety (90) days for successful
 17 completion of a job training program or assignment as approved by the Board
 18 of Corrections.

19 (B) All additional meritorious good time awarded under
 20 this section shall be credited immediately to the inmate's parole eligibility
 21 date calculation.

22 ~~(2)(A)(3)(A)~~ The additional days of meritorious good time
 23 described in subdivision (d)(1) of this section shall be awarded pursuant to
 24 rules promulgated by the board.

25 (B) The board may make additions, amendments, changes, or
 26 alterations to the rules in accordance with the Arkansas Administrative
 27 Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et seq.

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 29 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 12-29-203(a), concerning the forfeiture of
 30 meritorious good time, is amended to read as follows:

31 (a) All meritorious good time shall be forfeited by an inmate in the
 32 event of escape, and all or part of accrued good time may be taken away by
 33 the Director of the Department of Correction for infraction of rules,
 34 including without limitation:

35 (1) A sexual-related disciplinary violation;

36 (2) Possession of an illegal substance or contraband; or

(3) Smuggling or trading contraband.

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