Act 777 of the 1987 Regular Session

Act 777   HB2014

        "AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION TO PROVIDE
        FOR TREATMENT OF SEX OFFENDERS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

        WHEREAS, there are currently over 600 inmates in the Arkansas Department
of Correction convicted of sex related offenses; and
        WHEREAS, studies indicate that an unknown proportion of this group have
paraphilias (sexual deviations) which, if ignored will result in continued sex
related crimes upon release; and
        WHEREAS, an individualized assessment and treatment program in the
Department of Correction to screen for sexually transmitted diseases and teach
socially accepted behavior would decrease the amount of recidivism of these
inmates;

NOW THEREFORE,
BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

        SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to enable the Department of
Correction to establish a core program which will utilize services of medical
and mental health providers in the community to provide intensive treatment of
inmates with paraphilias (sexual deviations) during their incarceration to
increase their chance of returning to society successfully upon their release.

        SECTION 2. The Department of Correction, Division of Mental Health
Services, is hereby authorized to establish and maintain a program for inten-
sive treatment for control of deviant sexual behavior of inmates in a spe-
cialized treatment setting and to cooperate with the medical services provider
in screening for sexually transmitted diseases as part of this program. The
Department may develop the program in such a manner as to utilize outside pro-
fessionals from the medical and mental health fields to provide both teaching
and training opportunities.

        SECTION 3. The Department of Correction, Division of Mental Health
Services, shall adopt, promulgate and enforce such rules, regulations, poli-
cies and standards as may be necessary to carry out the intent and purposes of
this Act.

        SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are
hereby repealed.

                APPROVED: April 7, 1987

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