

# EXHIBIT B.1

## REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE

June 17, 2015

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The Legislative Criminal Justice Oversight Task Force met at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 17, 2015, in Room B-MAC, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Task Force members present: Senators Jeremy Hutchinson, Co-Chair; Joyce Elliott; and Representative Dwight Tosh; Drew Baker, Ken Cassidy, John Felts, John Wesley Hall, Tim Helder, Wendy Kelley, Benny Magness, Steve Newsome, and Sheila Sharp.

Senator Hutchinson called the meeting to order.

### Action/Requests

Without objection, the Minutes of the May 27, 2015, meeting were adopted as written.

Rick Ferguson, Billy McConnell, Rodney Cooper, and Clay McConnell, presented an overview of the programs and services offered by LaSalle Corrections. The company has expressed an interest in developing solutions to prison overcrowding in Arkansas and spoke on the available locations/number of prison beds logistically compatible to the state. (Exhibit C)

Wendy Ware, Vice President of JFA Associates, LLC, presented a report on the 2015 Arkansas Prison Projections and Historical Corrections Trends. Ms. Ware stated that in 2013, Arkansas had the fastest growing prison population (17.7%) in the country (seven times the national average) with a substantial increase in parolees being returned--the prison population grew by 3.7% in 2014. The number of parole violators returned to prison:

- 2012: 1,633
- 2013: 3,671
- 2014: 4,139
- 2015: 815 (estimate of 5,500 by end of year) (see Exhibit D for full report)

Senator Hutchinson said in order to function properly, the Task Force should organize into working groups. The following groups were assigned:

### **Sentencing**

Chair: Judge Gary Arnold  
Mr. Ken Casady  
Mr. Benny Magness  
Senator Jeremy Hutchinson  
Mr. John Hall

### **Re-Entry/Programs/ Services**

Chair: Senator Joyce Elliott  
Ms. Sheila Sharp  
Mr. Drew Baker  
Ms. Wendy Kelley

**Specialty Courts**

Chair: Judge Cristi Beaumont  
Judge Gary Arnold  
Mr. Steve Newsome  
Ms. Shelia Sharp  
Ms. Tjuana Byrd

**State Parole Revocation Policy**

Chair: Mr. John Felts  
Mr. Tim Helder  
Mr. Benny Magness  
Mr. John Hall  
Ms. Shelia Sharp

**Efficiencies Systems/ Process**

Chair: Mr. Robin Raveendran  
Ms. Wendy Kelley  
Mr. John Felts

**Mental Health Treatment**

Chair: Mr. Steve Newsome  
Mr. Robin Raveendran  
Ms. Tjuana Byrd  
Mr. Drew Baker  
Representative Matthew Shepherd

**Resources**

Chair: Representative Dwight Tosh  
Mr. Tim Helder  
Ms. Wendy Kelley  
Mr. Drew Baker  
Senator Jeremy Hutchinson  
Representative Matthew Shepherd

**Warrantless Searches**

Chair: Mr. Kenton Buckner  
Mr. John Hall  
Mr. Ken Casady  
Senator Joyce Elliott

**Clemency Guidelines/ Release Policy**

Chair: Mr. John Hall  
Ms. Wendy Kelley  
Mr. John Felts  
Mr. Ken Casady  
Mr. Benny Magness  
Senator Joyce Elliott

The next task force meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2015, at 10:00 a.m., and with no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.