

ARKANSAS SENATE
88th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2011
Amendment Form

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 806

TO BE TITLED THE ARKANSAS RESTORATIVE JUSTICE RESPONSIBILITY ACT.

Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill No. 806

Amend Senate Bill No. 806 as originally introduced:

Page 1, delete Section 1 and substitute:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 82, Subchapter 1 is amended to add a new section to read as follows:

6-82-107. Criminal history not a disqualifier.

A criminal conviction shall not be used as a basis to disqualify a person from eligibility for a scholarship, grant, loan forgiveness program, or other benefit subsidized by state funds under this chapter unless there is a specific statutory reason for denial that relates to the basis of assistance.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 11, Chapter 2, Subchapter 1 is amended to create a new section to read as follows:

11-2-123. Employment training and placement programs for ex-offenders.

(a) In order to help facilitate the restoration of an ex-offender's responsibility and self-sufficiency, the Department of Labor shall work in conjunction with other appropriate state agencies, the private sector, and labor organizations to promulgate rules for implementing placement and training programs for ex-offenders.

(b) Training and placement programs shall be intensive and focus on in-demand vocations and professions, including without limitation:

- (1) Professional careers and vocations;
- (2) Service careers and vocations;
- (3) Information and computer technology;
- (4) Medical technology; and
- (5) Office administration.

(c) A training program created and administered under this section shall incorporate a "Certificate of Completion" to be awarded to any person who completes a training program under this section, which shall signify that the person is competent to enter the workforce as an employee satisfactorily trained in a particular vocation or profession or as an employee prepared for on-the-job training.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 28, Subchapter 1 is amended to add a new section to read as follows:



12-28-107. Training for inmates.

(a) As provided for in § 12-28-101, the Department of Correction shall provide education as well as training for inmates who want to acquire skills for employment upon release.

(b)(1) The department shall identify high-demand vocations and careers and shall accordingly create training and skills programs to prepare inmates for gainful employment upon release.

(2) The programs under this section shall be available to all inmates except for inmates who disqualify themselves from participation due to disciplinary violations or because of other circumstances that may preclude the inmates' access to these programs.

(3) Programs under this section shall include without limitation training in the following fields:

- (A) Professional careers and vocations;
- (B) Service careers and vocations;
- (C) Information and computer technology;
- (D) Medical technology; and
- (E) Office administration.

SECTION 4. DO NOT CODIFY. Establishment of a study.

(a) The Department of Finance and Administration or other appropriate state agency designated by the Governor shall explore the feasibility of the state's assuming responsibility for limiting liability for a business or other commercial or nonprofit enterprise that knowingly employs ex-offenders.

(b) If the limiting of liability proves feasible and prudent, the Department of Finance and Administration or other appropriate agency designated by the Governor shall promulgate rules and regulations for implementation of a practice allowing the limitation of liability.

(c) Authority to determine feasibility and prudence under this section rests solely with the Department of Finance and Administration or other appropriate state agency designated by the Governor.

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____
By: Senator Elliott
BPG/LNS - 03/17/11 02:44
BPG387

Secretary