

**ARKANSAS SENATE**  
95th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2025  
**Amendment Form**

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**Subtitle of Senate Bill 144**

CONCERNING THE BACKLOG OF INMATES AWAITING TRANSFER TO THE DIVISION  
OF CORRECTION; AND TO ALLOW CERTAIN COUNTIES TO ENTER INTO COUNTY  
JAIL STATE INMATE CLOSE-TO-HOME PARTNERSHIPS.

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**Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill 144**

Amend Senate Bill 144 as originally introduced:

Page 1, delete lines 11 through 14, and substitute the following:

"THE BOARD OF CORRECTIONS TO ENTER INTO COUNTY JAIL-STATE INMATE CLOSE-TO-HOME SENTENCING PARTNERSHIPS WITH CERTAIN COUNTIES TO CONSTRUCT, EXPAND, OR IMPROVE A FACILITY TO HOUSE INMATES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

AND

Delete the subtitle in its entirety, and substitute the following:

"CONCERNING THE BACKLOG OF INMATES  
AWAITING TRANSFER TO THE DIVISION OF  
CORRECTION; AND TO ALLOW THE BOARD OF  
CORRECTIONS TO ENTER INTO COUNTY JAIL-  
STATE INMATE CLOSE-TO-HOME SENTENCING  
PARTNERSHIPS."

AND

Delete everything after the enacting clause, and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 28, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

12-28-110. Facility to house county jail backlog.



(a) The Board of Corrections may purchase, fund, construct, expand, or improve a facility to house inmates sentenced to the Division of Correction who are awaiting transfer to a prison:

(1) In a county that is one (1) of the eight (8) counties that contribute the most inmates to the total inmate population in the custody of the division; or

(2) Upon the approval of the quorum court of the county, in a county that adjoins one (1) of the eight (8) counties that contribute the most inmates to the total inmate population in the custody of the division.

(b) The division shall determine the eight (8) eligible counties under subsection (a) of this section based upon the total inmate population that existed as of January 1, 2025.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 41, Subchapter 5, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

12-41-512. County jail-state inmate close-to-home sentencing partnership.

(a) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, the Board of Corrections and one (1) or more county may enter into a county jail-state inmate close-to-home sentencing partnership agreement to fund, construct, expand, or improve a facility to house inmates of the jail or to house inmates sentenced to the Division of Correction who are awaiting transfer to a prison.

(b) An agreement under subsection (a) of this section is subject to the following requirements:

(1)(A) At least one (1) county entering the county jail-state inmate close-to-home sentencing partnership agreement shall be:

(i) One (1) of the eight (8) counties that contribute the most inmates to the total population in the custody of the division; or

(ii) A county that adjoins one (1) of the eight (8) counties that contribute the most inmates to the total population in the custody of the division.

(B) The division shall determine the eight (8) eligible counties based upon the total inmate population that existed as of January 1, 2025;

(2) If more than (1) county enters into the county jail-state inmate close-to-home sentencing partnership agreement, all counties entering the agreement shall adjoin each other; and

(3) The county jail-state inmate close-to-home sentencing partnership agreement shall be approved by a vote of the quorum court of each county entering the agreement.

(c) In addition to any sources of funding provided by law, the costs associated with funding, constructing, expanding, or improving a facility pursuant to a county jail-state inmate close-to-home sentencing partnership agreement under this section may be provided from funds authorized by the General Assembly.

(d) A county jail-state inmate close-to-home sentencing partnership agreement under this section must be approved by the quorum court of a county before June 30, 2027."

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and

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By: Senator B. King  
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Secretary