

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999

A Bill

SENATE BILL 523

4
5 By: Senators B. Lewellen, Mahony, Webb, Roebuck
6 By: Representatives Jones, Ferguson, Willis, Harris

For An Act To Be Entitled

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10 "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
11 PUNISHMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION SHALL
12 JOINTLY ESTABLISH A TWO (2) YEAR PILOT COMMUNITY WORK
13 PROGRAM IN LEE, PHILLIPS, ST. FRANCIS, AND CRITTENDEN
14 COUNTIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Subtitle

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17 "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF
18 COMMUNITY PUNISHMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT
19 OF CORRECTION SHALL JOINTLY ESTABLISH A
20 TWO (2) YEAR PILOT COMMUNITY WORK
21 PROGRAM IN LEE, PHILLIPS, ST. FRANCIS,
22 AND CRITTENDEN COUNTIES."

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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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27 SECTION 1. (a)(1) The Department of Community Punishment and the
28 Department of Correction shall jointly establish a community work program in
29 Lee, Phillips, St. Francis, and Crittenden Counties. The program shall be a
30 two (2) year pilot program. Under the program inmates will be allowed to work
31 at participating school districts to assist the school districts in the
32 refurbishing, cleaning, maintenance, and repair of school district property.

33 (2) During the program there shall be established an office of
34 the Department of Community Punishment at the East Arkansas Regional
35 Correctional Facility at Brickeys for the purpose of coordinating the pilot
36 program.

1 (b) A person convicted of a violent offense or a sex offense shall not
2 be eligible to participate in the program. "Sex offense" and "violent
3 offense" shall have the same meaning as defined in Arkansas Code 12-12-1103.
4 The Department of Community Punishment may establish rules establishing
5 additional qualifications for participation in the program.

6 (c) The Department of Community Punishment may employ additional
7 personnel and purchase or lease equipment necessary to carry out the
8 department's duties under this act.

9 (d) The State Board of Parole and Community Rehabilitation shall
10 promulgate rules and regulations to grant good time credit for inmates who
11 participate in the program.

12 (e) The Arkansas National Guard may assist the pilot program by
13 providing such equipment and personnel as it determines to be feasible.

14 (f) The Department of Community Punishment shall file an interim report
15 to the Department of Education, the Legislative Council, and the Governor by
16 December 31, 2000. The Department of Community Punishment shall also file a
17 final report within sixty (60) days after the conclusion of the pilot program.

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19 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
20 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
21 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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23 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
24 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
25 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
26 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
27 act are declared to be severable.

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29 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
30 hereby repealed.

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32 SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General
33 Assembly that many school districts in Lee, Phillips, St. Francis, and
34 Crittenden Counties do not have the necessary economic base to efficiently
35 address needs for the repair and maintenance of school facilities and
36 equipment; that there is a need for additional community work programs for

1 inmates; that the use of inmates to assist with repairs and maintenance would
2 address both needs; that a two (2) year pilot program should be established at
3 the beginning of the next fiscal year in order to provide sufficient time to
4 evaluate the program at the next regular session of the General Assembly.
5 Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately
6 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall
7 become effective on July 1, 1999.

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