



H.B. 514

125th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. White, Price, Willamowski, Wagner, Hagan, Seitz, Latta, Kearns, Husted, Widener, S. Smith, Raga, McGregor, Webster, Collier, Olman

BILL SUMMARY

- Creates a temporary Correctional Faith-Based Initiatives Task Force to study and make recommendations concerning faith-based solutions to problems in the correctional system.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Creation of Correctional Faith-Based Initiatives Task Force

The bill creates in temporary law the 15-member Correctional Faith-Based Initiatives Task Force. The members of the Task Force include two members of the House of Representatives with one appointed by the Speaker of the House and one appointed by the House minority leader; two members of the Senate with one appointed by the President of the Senate and one appointed by the Senate minority leader; two members appointed by the Governor; the Directors of Rehabilitation and Correction, Job and Family Services, Youth Services, Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, and Mental Health or their respective designees; three members appointed by the Director of Rehabilitation and Correction who have expertise or experience in faith-based programs in the correctional setting; and one member appointed by the executive assistant in charge of the Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. The Director of Rehabilitation and Correction, or the Director's designee, and the member of the House appointed by the Speaker of the House co-chair the Task Force, which must meet at least monthly. The Department of Rehabilitation and Correction must provide the Task Force with a meeting room and secretarial assistance.

Purpose of the Task Force

The bill charges the Task Force with studying faith-based solutions to problems in the correctional system, focusing on diversion programs, programs and services within the prison system and for families of incarcerated individuals,

and the faith-based and nonprofit organizations that provide the programs and services. The Task Force must study existing faith-based programs in prisons in Ohio and other states and consider the feasibility of replicating programs from other states and developing model faith-based institutions, faith-based units within institutions, and faith-based programs to reduce recidivism, improve prison management, and deal with juveniles in the adult penal system or whose parents are incarcerated.

Report and termination

The bill requires the Task Force to make a written report and recommendations to the Governor, Speaker of the House, and President of the Senate within one year of the bill's enactment. Upon submitting the report and recommendations, the Task Force ceases to exist.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	06-01-04	p. 2120

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