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## DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION AND CORRECTION

### Office of Enterprise Development Advisory Board

- Creates the Office of Enterprise Development Advisory Board to advise and assist the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) in implementing the DRC's job training and employment program.
- Eliminates the Advisory Council of Directors for Prison Labor that currently provides some services that are similar to those that will be provided by the Office of Enterprise Development Advisory Board.

### DRC study

- Requires the DRC to convene a committee to study assaults and other violence within state correctional institutions.

### Creation of the Office of Enterprise Development Advisory Board

(R.C. 5145.162; Sections 610.20 and 610.21)

The bill creates the Office of Enterprise Development Advisory Board to advise and assist the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) with the creation of training programs and jobs for inmates and releasees through partnerships with private sector businesses. The bill eliminates the Advisory Council of Directors for Prison Labor. Under current law, the Advisory Council provides advice and assistance to DRC when it adopts rules for the administration of DRC's program for the employment of prisoners, establishes prices for goods, products, services, or labor produced or supplied by prisoners, and otherwise establishes and administers DRC's program for the employment of prisoners.

The bill provides that the Office of Enterprise Development Advisory Board consists of at least five appointed members and the Executive Director of the Office of Correctional Institution Inspection Committee. Under the bill, the Executive Director serves as an ex officio member of the Advisory Board. The members are required to have experience in labor relations, marketing, business management, or business. The members and chairperson are appointed by DRC. Under current law, the members of the Advisory Council are appointed by the Governor. Members of the Advisory Board do not receive compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses actually and necessarily incurred in the performance of official duties of the Advisory Board. Those



members who are state employees are reimbursed for expenses pursuant to travel rules promulgated by the Office of Budget and Management.

The Advisory Board is required to adopt procedures for the conduct of the Advisory Board's meetings. The Advisory Board must meet at least once every quarter and at the call of the Chairperson or the Director of DRC. The Advisory Board must obtain the concurrence of a quorum of its members to transact the Board's business. Sixty per cent of the Advisory Board's members constitutes a quorum. The bill provides that the Advisory Board may have committees with persons who are not members of the Advisory Board but whose experience and expertise is relevant and useful to the work of the committee.

The bill gives the Advisory Board the following duties:

(1) Solicit business proposals offering job training, apprenticeship, education programs, and employment opportunities for inmates and releasees;

(2) Provide information and input to the Office of Enterprise Development to support the job training and employment program of inmates and releasees and any additional, related duties that are requested by the Director;

(3) Recommend to the Office any legislation, administrative rule, or department policy change that the Advisory Board believes is necessary to implement DRC's program;

(4) Promote public awareness of the Office and the Office's employment program;

(5) Familiarize itself and the public with avenues to access the Office on employment program concerns;

(6) Advocate for the needs and concerns of the Office in local communities, counties, and the state;

(7) Play an active role in the Office's efforts to reduce recidivism in Ohio by doing all of the following:

(a) Providing input and making recommendations for the Office's consideration in monitoring employment program compliance and effectiveness;

(b) Making suggestions on the appropriate priorities for the Office's grant award criterion;



(c) Being a liaison between the Office and constituents of the Advisory Board's members;

(d) Working to develop constituent groups interested in employment program issues;

(8) Aid in the employment program development process by playing a leadership role in professional associations by discussing employment program issues.

The bill requires DRC to initially screen each business proposal that the Advisory Board receives as a result of the Advisory Board's solicitation of the proposals described in (1), above. The purpose of the initial screening is to ensure that the proposal is a viable venture to pursue. If the proposal is a viable venture to pursue, DRC must submit the proposal to the Advisory Board for objective review against established guidelines. The Advisory Board is required to determine whether to recommend the implementation of the program to DRC.

### **DRC study**

(Section 701.40)

The bill requires the DRC to convene a committee to study assaults and other violence within state correctional institutions. The committee is required to meet, discuss, and share all relevant information and to publish a report that includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

(1) Staffing rates per state correctional institution, including vacancy rates;

(2) Recommendation of acceptable staffing levels per state correctional institution, including vacancy rates;

(3) Current relief factor ratios per state correctional institution, including the methodology used to calculate the relief factor;

(4) Recommendations of acceptable relief factor ratios per state correctional institution;

(5) Correctional officer to inmate ratio per state correctional institution, excluding vacancy rates;

(6) Numbers and details of incidents of violence per state correctional institution;

(7) A definition of what the DRC includes in the assault and other violence statistics;



(8) The number of days off from employment due to violence in the state correctional institution;

(9) Recommendations to reduce violence in state correctional institutions.

The committee is required to submit a copy of the committee's report to the Governor, Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, and President and Minority Leader of the Senate no later than December 31, 2013.

