

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-fifth Legislature First Regular Session

House: CJR DPA 8-1-0-0 | 3rd Read 56-3-1-0

HB 2163: prisoners; discharge; transition program Sponsor: Representative Blackman, LD 6 House Engrossed

<u>Overview</u>

Modifies the Department of Corrections (Department) requirements for the prison inmate transition program (Program).

<u>History</u>

The Department is required to establish a Program providing eligible inmates with transition services (Services) for up to 90 days. The Department must administer the Program and contract with private or nonprofit entities to provide eligible inmates with Services. Certain specified criteria must be met for an inmate to be eligible for Services. Each contract awarded to entities that are providing Services must train mentors and offer specified counseling and treatment. (A.R.S. § 31-281)

Provisions

- 1. Requires the Department to inform a prisoner at least one month before the prisoner's discharge date. (Sec. 1)
- 2. Requires the Department, beginning on July 1, 2021 and each year thereafter, to release at least 3,500 eligible inmates into a Program. (Sec. 2)
- 3. Removes the requirement that an inmate be classified by the Department as a low violence risk to the community to qualify for Services. (Sec. 2)
- 4. Specifies only inmates classified as a low violence risk to the community are eligible for the Program. (Sec. 2)
- 5. Extends the Program for 10 years from 2020 to 2030. (Sec. 3)
- 6. Contains two retroactivity clauses. (Sec. 4)

□ Prop 105 (45 votes) □ Prop 108 (40 votes) □ Emergency (40 votes) □ Fiscal Note