

# HOUSE BILL No. 1313

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 11-10.

**Synopsis:** Reentry support pilot programs. Establishes a peer mentorship pilot program in the: (1) Indiana state prison; (2) New Castle Correctional Facility; (3) Branchville Correctional Facility; (4) Indiana women's prison; and (5) Putnamville Correctional Facility; to use peer mentors and other qualified individuals to provide counseling and other services to aid in the reentry of incarcerated individuals. Establishes within the department of correction a pilot grant program for housing for discharged incarcerated individuals, to be used to assist an individual in obtaining and maintaining housing.

**Effective:** July 1, 2025.

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**Andrade, Pierce M, DeLaney,  
Morris**

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January 13, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Courts and Criminal Code.

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First Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2025)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2024 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

# HOUSE BILL No. 1313

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning corrections.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 11-10-17 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2025]:

4 **Chapter 17. Peer Focused Reentry Pilot Program**

5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "peer mentor" means a formerly**  
6 **incarcerated individual who, in the opinion of the department, may**  
7 **be able to assist currently incarcerated individuals to productively**  
8 **reenter society.**

9 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "pilot" means the peer focused**  
10 **reentry pilot program established by section 3 of this chapter.**

11 **Sec. 3. The peer focused reentry pilot program is established in**  
12 **the following correctional facilities:**

- 13 (1) **Indiana state prison.**
- 14 (2) **New Castle Correctional Facility.**
- 15 (3) **Branchville Correctional Facility.**
- 16 (4) **Indiana women's prison.**
- 17 (5) **Putnamville Correctional Facility.**



1           **Sec. 4. (a) The pilot shall employ peer mentors and other**  
 2 **qualified individuals to provide services, counseling, and mentoring**  
 3 **to assist incarcerated individuals in successfully reentering society**  
 4 **upon discharge.**

5           **(b) Services provided by the pilot shall include counseling by**  
 6 **peer mentors to assist incarcerated individuals by doing the**  
 7 **following:**

8           **(1) Helping incarcerated individuals evaluate their choices**  
 9 **more effectively.**

10           **(2) Providing guidance concerning effective interpersonal**  
 11 **skills.**

12           **(3) Modeling ways of coping with negative occurrences.**

13           **(4) Aiding incarcerated individuals in gaining self-confidence**  
 14 **and self-sufficiency.**

15           **(5) Using the peer mentors' lived experience of involvement**  
 16 **with the justice system to model how incarcerated individuals**  
 17 **can manage the stigma and systemic barriers associated with**  
 18 **a criminal history.**

19           **(6) Providing other appropriate counseling.**

20           **Sec. 5. Each correctional facility participating in the pilot shall**  
 21 **employ at least three (3) peer mentors.**

22           **Sec. 6. The department may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to**  
 23 **implement and administer this chapter.**

24           **Sec. 7. This chapter expires July 1, 2030.**

25           SECTION 2. IC 11-10-18 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
 26 AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 27 JULY 1, 2025]:

28           **Chapter 18. Pilot Grant Program for Housing for Discharged**  
 29 **Incarcerated Individuals**

30           **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "pilot" means the department's**  
 31 **pilot grant program for housing for discharged incarcerated**  
 32 **individuals established under section 2 of this chapter.**

33           **Sec. 2. The department shall establish the pilot grant program**  
 34 **for housing for discharged incarcerated individuals in the**  
 35 **following counties:**

36           **(1) Allen County.**

37           **(2) Lake County.**

38           **(3) Marion County.**

39           **(4) Vanderburgh County.**

40           **Sec. 3. The department shall provide grants under the pilot to**  
 41 **a:**

42           **(1) community corrections program;**



1           (2) reentry program; or  
 2           (3) nonprofit organization focused on providing housing and  
 3           reentry services to discharged incarcerated individuals;  
 4 for the purpose of aiding discharged incarcerated individuals in  
 5 obtaining permanent housing.

6           Sec. 4. (a) As determined by an entity described in section 3 of  
 7 this chapter, a grant awarded under this chapter may be for one  
 8 (1) or more of the following purposes to support discharged  
 9 incarcerated individuals:

10           (1) To pay all or part of a security deposit.

11           (2) To pay all or part of a rental application fee, first and last  
 12 month's rent, and other expenses required to be paid in  
 13 advance as a condition of obtaining a rental.

14           (3) To provide rental assistance as necessary to avoid eviction  
 15 due to the temporary unemployment of a discharged  
 16 incarcerated individual.

17           (4) To pay all or part of moving expenses.

18           (5) To pay any required utility deposit.

19           (b) A grant awarded under this chapter may be used by an  
 20 entity described in section 3 of this chapter to provide the  
 21 following:

22           (1) Transportation services to assist a discharged incarcerated  
 23 individual in finding housing.

24           (2) Classes and other programming focused on assisting a  
 25 discharged incarcerated individual in applying for a rental  
 26 and in budgeting to ensure that the discharged incarcerated  
 27 individual is able to anticipate and pay for housing expenses.

28           (c) Upon written application by an entity described in section 3  
 29 of this chapter, the department may award a grant for a purpose  
 30 not described in subsection (a) or (b) if the department finds that  
 31 the purpose will meaningfully assist a discharged incarcerated  
 32 individual in obtaining or maintaining housing.

33           Sec. 5. The department may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to  
 34 implement and administer this chapter.

35           Sec. 6. This chapter expires July 1, 2030.

