

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

SENATE BILL 144

By: Rader

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to the Department of Corrections; establishing the Reentry and Housing Pilot Program; stating purpose; establishing certain criteria; requiring administration of pilot program by the Department of Corrections; authorizing certain partnerships; requiring certain contract for certain assessment; requiring submission of certain report; requiring promulgation of rules; creating the Reentry and Housing Pilot Program Revolving Fund; specifying permissible sources of funding; authorizing certain expenditures by the Department of Corrections; authorizing retainment of certain percentage of funds for certain purpose; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 569 of Title 57, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Department of Corrections shall establish a five-year pilot program subject to the availability of funds called the "Reentry and Housing Pilot Program". The purpose of the pilot program is to provide housing access to reduce the high rate of homelessness and housing instability among inmates upon release and

1 to provide reentry and treatment services for such inmates through  
2 the utilization of evidence-based practices.

3 B. The Reentry and Housing Pilot Program shall address, but not  
4 be limited to, the following:

5 1. Creation of both rural and urban affordable housing  
6 developments throughout this state;

7 2. Identification of the population of inmates that are at a  
8 high risk for homelessness and housing instability upon release;

9 3. Development of a community-based housing access program that  
10 provides comprehensive and specific services to former inmates who  
11 are in need of stable housing;

12 4. A comprehensive reentry plan focused on parenting, life, and  
13 employment skills for inmates upon release from custody, including a  
14 modification of existing reentry programs and services;

15 5. Modification of existing substance abuse treatments and  
16 rehabilitation programs offered to inmates upon release; and

17 6. Development of partnerships within local communities to  
18 assist in the provision of support services and employment  
19 opportunities to inmates upon release.

20 C. The Reentry and Housing Pilot Program shall be administered  
21 by the Department of Corrections. The Department shall be  
22 authorized to enter into public-private partnerships to assist with  
23 housing stability and reentry and treatment services for former  
24 inmates.

1 D. 1. The Department shall contract with a third-party entity  
2 for an evaluation of the pilot program that will assess its  
3 effectiveness in reducing recidivism among inmates transitioning  
4 from prison into the community.

5 2. The Department shall electronically submit a report of the  
6 findings from its evaluation of the pilot program to the Legislature  
7 and the Governor annually for as long as the program is funded.

8 E. The Department shall promulgate rules to administer the  
9 provisions of this section.

10 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
11 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 569.A of Title 57, unless there  
12 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

13 There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund  
14 for the Department of Corrections to be designated the "Reentry and  
15 Housing Pilot Program Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a  
16 continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall  
17 consist of all monies received by the Department of Corrections from  
18 appropriations, donations, grants, or other sources of funding  
19 provided for the purpose of administering the Reentry and Housing  
20 Pilot Program. All monies accruing to the credit of the fund are  
21 hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the  
22 Department of Corrections for the purpose provided for Section 1 of  
23 this act. Expenditures from the fund shall be made upon warrants  
24 issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by

1 law with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise  
2 Services for approval and payment. Of the available funds, the  
3 Department may use up to five percent (5%) to cover administrative  
4 costs.

5 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

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