

SENATE BILL 2236

By Campbell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4 and Title 41, relative to corrections.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 41-21-1001, is amended by deleting subdivision (1) and substituting:

(1) "Board" means the correction oversight board;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 41-21-1002(a), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting:

(a) There is created a full-time, autonomous correction oversight board. The purpose of the board is to:

(1) Review the grant, denial, and removal of inmate sentence credits by a warden for good institutional behavior and to determine whether sentence credits previously awarded should be removed for commission of a major infraction designated by the department as a Class A disciplinary offense or for an inmate's refusal to participate in an assignment; and

(2) Evaluate the effectiveness of private prison contractors in accordance with § 41-21-1003(a)(12).

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 41-21-1003(a), is amended by adding the following new subdivision:

(12) The duty to evaluate the effectiveness of private prison contractors in this state with respect to:

- (A) The condition of the facilities operated by such contractors;
- (B) The programs and services offered to inmates by such contractors;

(C) The rates of physical and sexual assault, rape, and battery of inmates, including such acts committed by other inmates and by officers and staff, in facilities operated by such contractors;

(D) The qualifications, experience, training, and turnover of officers and staff in facilities operated by such contractors; and

(E) Gang activity, including indoctrination by and induction into gangs, in facilities operated by such contractors, and the methods and actions taken by such contractors to reduce and eliminate such activity.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 41-21-1005, is amended by deleting the language "The warden of each prison and all officers and employees of each prison and all other public officials shall at all times cooperate with the board" and substituting "The warden of each prison and all officers and employees of each prison, including the officers and employees of private prison contractors, and all other public officials shall at all times cooperate with the board".

SECTION 5. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.