

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 817

BY REPRESENTATIVE JAMES

PUBLIC SFTY/DEPARTMENT: Requires the collection and reporting of information regarding inmate participation in certain work programs

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 15:827(A)(8), relative to the Department of Public Safety and Corrections; to  
3 provide for the collection of data and information relative to inmates participating  
4 in any program that offers the inmate compensation for services or work performed,  
5 on-the-job training, or industry certification; to require the Department of Public  
6 Safety and Corrections to annually report the information and data collected to the  
7 legislature; to provide for the information to be collected and reported; to authorize  
8 the department to adopt any rules or regulations necessary to establish the system for  
9 collecting and reporting the information and data; and to provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 15:827(A)(8) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §827. Duties of Department of Public Safety and Corrections

13 A. In addition to other duties imposed upon the department it shall be the  
14 duty of the department to:

15 \* \* \*

16 (8)(a) Establish a system to collect information and data on inmates  
17 participating in any program that offers the inmate compensation for services or  
18 work performed, on-the-job training, or industry certification including but not  
19 limited to information and data for all of the following: inmates assigned to Prison  
20 Enterprises' industrial, agricultural, service, or other programs; inmates who are



---

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

---

HB 817 Reengrossed

2018 Regular Session

James

**Abstract:** Requires the collection and reporting of information related to an inmate's participation in programs which offer the inmate compensation for services or work performed, on-the-job training, or industry certification.

Present law provides for the current duties of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, including the collection of data to study efficacy and performance of policies. The department is required to make an annual report to the governor regarding work of the department, results of inspections, and recommendations to the legislature affecting the department. The department is also responsible for the creation of training programs for inmates and offenders.

Proposed law retains present law and adds a requirement that the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections establish a system for the collection of information and data on inmates participating in any program that offers the inmate compensation for services or work performed, on-the-job training, or industry certification and requires the department to report the information and data to the legislature by July first of each year.

In this regard, proposed law requires the collection and reporting of information and data related to all of the following: inmates assigned to Prison Enterprises' industrial, agricultural, service, or other programs; inmates who are Certified Academic Tutors and Certified Vocational Tutors; inmates assigned to a certified Private Sector/Prison Industry Enhancement program; inmates participating in a work release program established and administered by a sheriff; inmates participating in the work release program established and administered by the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections; and inmates participating in a program established and administered pursuant to the Reentry Advisory Council and Offender Rehabilitation Workforce Development Act.

Proposed law provides that the information and data collected shall include but not be limited to the number of inmates participating in each program, the rate of compensation and the amount of each inmate's wages, the amount deducted from the wages of each inmate, the maximum number of inmates that can participate in each program, the number of inmates participating in each program, the number of inmates that receive industry certification or credentials for participating in a program, and the cost of obtaining training or certification by the inmate. Further requires the information to include the amount of funds deposited into and disbursed from the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, Prison Enterprises Fund.

Proposed law authorizes the department to adopt any regulation or rule necessary to implement the provisions of proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 15:827(A)(8))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill:

1. Change the date on which the department is required to annually report to the legislature from January first to July first.

2. Add that the information collected and reported by the department shall include the amount of funds deposited into and disbursed from the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, Prison Enterprises Fund.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Make technical corrections.