

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE BILL NO. 918

BY REPRESENTATIVE PATRICIA SMITH

CORRECTIONS: Authorizes earning of additional good time for participation in certain rehabilitation and treatment programs

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 15:571.3(D) and to enact R.S. 15:571.3(E), relative to  
3 diminution of sentence for good behavior; to authorize certain inmates to earn good  
4 time for participation in certified treatment and rehabilitation programs; to provide  
5 for exceptions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 15:571.3(D) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 15:571.3(E)  
8 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §571.3. Diminution of sentence for good behavior

10 \* \* \*

11 D. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, those  
12 offenders who are otherwise eligible and are participating in certified treatment and  
13 rehabilitation programs as provided for in R.S. 15:828(B), may earn good time  
14 pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 15:828(B) unless the offender was convicted of a  
15 crime of violence as defined in R.S. 14:2(B) or a sex offense as provided for in R.S.  
16 15:541.

17 ~~D~~ E. Diminution of sentence shall not be allowed an inmate in the custody  
18 of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections if the instant offense is a second  
19 offense crime of violence as defined by R.S. 14:2(B).

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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)]

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Patricia Smith

HB No. 918

**Abstract:** Allows certain inmates to earn good time for participation in educational programs.

Present law provides that the secretary shall adopt rules and regulations for local jail facilities and state correctional institutions to encourage voluntary participation by inmates in certified treatment and rehabilitation programs, including but not limited to basic education, job skills training, values development, faith-based initiatives, therapeutic programs, and treatment programs.

Present law further provides that when funds are provided, such educational programs shall be available at each penal or correctional institution under the jurisdiction of the department. The rules and regulations may include provisions for furloughs or the awarding of good time, for offenders who are otherwise eligible. Offenders may be awarded up to 180 days good time for satisfactory participation in each approved program pursuant to the provisions of this Subsection, but no offender shall receive more than 540 days total good time for program participation.

Present law prohibits certain habitual offenders from earning good time diminution of sentence.

Proposed law allows habitual offenders who are not convicted of crimes of violence or sex offenses to participate in earning good time for participating in certain treatment and rehabilitation programs.

(Amends R.S. 15:571.3(D); Adds R.S. 15:571.3(E))