

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 508

## 99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ELLINGTON.

0313H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

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### AN ACT

To amend chapter 217, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to improving the ability of inmates to obtain employment upon release from incarceration.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 217, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 217.870, to read as follows:

**217.870. In an effort to reduce the recidivism rate of offenders who are incarcerated in the state of Missouri, the department of corrections shall, prior to the release of any working inmate, do the following:**

**(1) Subject to appropriation, participate in the Federal Bonding Program;**

**(2) Review the types of jobs available for inmates while incarcerated to determine which jobs would be eligible for certification and ensure that any inmate who has completed the necessary requirements for certification in a particular field does receive certification; and**

**(3) Issue a worker certificate to any inmate who has worked in one or more jobs while incarcerated that were the types of jobs that are not eligible for certification. This worker certificate shall indicate the number of hours the inmate has worked or training the inmate has received in each job that the inmate held. It shall also specify the duties required for each job and list the skills acquired or demonstrated on the job.**

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EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.