ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 336-ASSEMBLYMAN EDWARDS

MARCH 20, 2017

Referred to Committee on Corrections, Parole, and Probation

SUMMARY—Establishes provisions governing certain offenders who are veterans. (BDR 16-1151)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: Yes.

EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets formitted material is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to corrections; requiring wardens of certain prisons and the Director of the Department of Corrections to provide certain programs of educational development and workforce development for offenders who are veterans; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

This bill requires the warden of certain prisons to: (1) determine and report to the Director of the Department of Corrections certain information regarding the educational needs and vocational skills of offenders who are veterans; and (2) establish, improve and expand programs of educational development and workforce development to more effectively serve those offenders. This bill also requires the Director to align offenders who are veterans with educational needs and vocational skills with compatible programs of educational development and workforce development.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 209 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. The warden of each institution shall:

(a) Determine the number of offenders in that institution who are veterans and the educational needs and vocational skills of those veterans.



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- (b) Submit to the Director an annual report of the information determined pursuant to paragraph (a).
- (c) In coordination with the Director, evaluate and implement improvements or expansions in the programs of educational development and workforce development which are operated in the institution to more effectively serve offenders who are veterans.
 - 2. The Director shall:

- (a) Determine how the Department can best consolidate the population of veterans in institutions as reported by wardens pursuant to subsection 1 to make available as many programs of educational development and workforce development as reasonably possible.
- (b) Assess the educational needs and vocational skills of veterans in institutions as reported by wardens pursuant to subsection 1 and align the veterans who possess those needs and skills with compatible programs of educational development and workforce development which are operated in institutions.
 - 3. As used in this section:
- (a) "Program of educational development" means a program in which an offender who is a veteran may obtain a high school diploma, a general educational development certificate or an equivalent document and includes, without limitation, instruction in civics, life skills and the management of stress.
- (b) "Program of workforce development" means a program that focuses on skills which an offender who is a veteran can use to obtain employment and earn wages upon release, including, without limitation:
 - (1) Automotive repair;
 - (2) Carpentry;
 - (3) Food preparation;
- (4) The care and training of animals, including, without limitation, service animals;
 - (5) The restoration of motor vehicles; and
 - (6) Welding.
- (c) "Veteran" means a person who has served in the Armed Forces of the United States, a reserve component thereof or the National Guard and has been discharged or released therefrom.
- **Sec. 2.** 1. If an institution does not have a program of educational development and a program of workforce development as of July 1, 2017, the warden of the institution shall establish a program of educational development, a program of workforce development, or both, as required, not later than July 1, 2018.
 - 2. As used in this section:
 - (a) "Institution" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 209.071.





- (b) "Program of educational development" has the meaning ascribed to it in section 1 of this act. 2
- (c) "Program of workforce development" has the meaning ascribed to it in section 1 of this act.
 (d) "Warden" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 209.085.

 Sec. 3. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2017. 4





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