

## Assembly Bill No. 1998

### CHAPTER 732

An act to add and repeal Section 3055.5 of the Penal Code, relating to parole.

[Approved by Governor September 29, 2006. Filed with  
Secretary of State September 29, 2006.]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1998, Chan. Parole: prerelease program: Alameda County.

Existing law authorizes the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to establish 3 pilot programs that provide training and counseling for female parolees to assist in their successful reintegration into the community.

This bill would require the department to contract for the establishment and operation of a 3-year prerelease parole pilot program in Alameda County for male and female offenders who were convicted of a nonviolent offense, in order to provide coordination between departmental and community service providers to ensure that offenders transition smoothly from services during incarceration through reentry programs. The bill would require the contractee to report to the Legislature and the Governor on the cost-effectiveness of the program by January 1, 2010.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 3055.5 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

3055.5. (a) The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation shall contract for the establishment and operation of a prerelease parole pilot program in Alameda County.

(b) The purpose of the program is to provide coordination between departmental and community service providers to ensure that parolees transition smoothly from services during incarceration through reentry programs.

(c) (1) The program shall prepare participants who will be entering a reentry services program.

(2) Up to one year prior to his or her release on parole from any state correctional facility to Alameda County, any male or female inmate who has been committed for a nonviolent offense may enroll in the program.

(d) The program shall include, but not be limited to, a prerelease assessment screening for needed educational, employment-related, medical, substance abuse and mental health services, housing assistance, and other social services.

(e) In awarding a contract pursuant to this section, the secretary may accept proposals from public and private not-for-profit entities located in Alameda County.

(f) The contractee, with the assistance of an independent consultant with expertise in criminal justice programs, shall complete a report that evaluates the cost-effectiveness of the prerelease program with respect to the effect of the program on the recidivism rate of the participants. The contractee shall submit that report to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature, and to the Governor, no later than January 1, 2010. Implementation of the program is contingent upon the availability of funding for the completion of the report. The contractee may obtain funding for the report from sources outside the budget of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The Legislature intends that no more than 5 percent of the cost of the program should be expended to prepare and submit the report.

(g) This section shall remain in effect until January 1, 2011, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute that is enacted before January 1, 2011, deletes or extends that date.