
Introduced by Senator Romero

February 22, 2005

An act relating to the Youth Authority.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 795, as introduced, Romero. Youth Authority: parole.

Existing law provides for the release on parole of persons from the Department of the Youth Authority.

This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation providing for the transfer of Youth Authority parole supervision and services from state to local governments, as specified, and requiring that each ward be provided with a reentry plan upon release.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that the
2 parole population of the Youth Authority has declined
3 significantly in recent years and is projected to decrease from
4 3,800 cases statewide on June 30, 2005, to fewer than 3,500
5 parolees statewide by June 30, 2006. As the parole population
6 has declined, the Youth Authority has found it increasingly
7 difficult to provide optimum supervision and services to parolees
8 statewide in a cost-effective manner. Local probation
9 departments and courts already supervise large numbers of
10 juvenile offenders and are better positioned to provide local and
11 community supervision and programs to each ward released from
12 the Youth Authority.

1 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that
2 will do all of the following:

3 (1) Provide for the transfer of Youth Authority parole
4 supervision and services from state to local governments under
5 the terms, provisions, and funding mechanisms described herein.

6 (2) Ensure that each ward committed to the Youth Authority
7 shall, upon release from the Youth Authority, have an individual
8 reentry plan addressing the ward's needs in relation to
9 supervision, public safety, housing, education, employment,
10 health and mental health care and related needs, and ensure that
11 local juvenile courts and probation departments shall have the
12 primary responsibility for the implementation of each ward's
13 reentry plan.

14 (3) Ensure that each ward committed to the Youth Authority
15 shall be released to parole with sufficient control time remaining,
16 prior to reaching the maximum confinement or maximum
17 jurisdictional time in the case, so that the ward's individual
18 reentry plan can be successfully implemented in the ward's
19 community of release.