

Assembly Bill No. 2326

Passed the Assembly August 27, 2010

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Passed the Senate August 25, 2010

Secretary of the Senate

This bill was received by the Governor this _____ day
of _____, 2010, at _____ o'clock ____M.

Private Secretary of the Governor

CHAPTER _____

An act to amend Section 5056.5 of the Penal Code, relating to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Reentry Advisory Committee.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AB 2326, Bass. Reentry Advisory Committee.

Existing law requires the Secretary of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to establish, until January 1, 2011, a Reentry Advisory Committee, comprised as specified, to advise the secretary on matters related to the successful planning, implementation, and outcomes of all reentry programs and services in the department, with the goal of reducing recidivism. Existing law provides that the committee shall meet at least quarterly and that committee members shall receive compensation for travel expenses but no other compensation.

This bill would change the qualifications for one of the committee members, and would expand the membership of the committee by 7 members, as specified. The bill would provide that the committee shall meet upon call of the secretary. The bill would remove the requirement that committee members receive compensation for travel expenses, as specified, and instead provide that committee members shall serve without compensation. The bill would require the secretary, in consultation with the committee, to apply for specified federal grants. The bill would authorize the secretary to develop a comprehensive strategic reentry plan containing annual and 5-year performance goals, as specified, or to satisfy specified federal grant funding eligibility criteria by other means. The bill would require the secretary, in consultation with the committee, to apply for any federal financial hardship exemptions available to states struggling to identify matching funds for specified federal grants, and to submit a report to the Legislature and the United States Attorney General detailing the progress toward achieving strategic performance outcomes, as specified. The bill would extend the operation of the committee until January 1, 2016.

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

SECTION 1. Section 5056.5 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

5056.5. (a) On or before July 1, 2007, the Secretary of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation shall establish a Reentry Advisory Committee. The committee shall report to the secretary, who shall serve as chair of the committee. The committee shall include representation from stakeholders in the successful administration of reentry programming and shall be comprised of the following members, appointed by the secretary:

- (1) A representative of the California League of Cities.
- (2) A representative of the California State Association of Counties.
- (3) A representative of the California State Sheriffs' Association.
- (4) A representative of the California Police Chiefs' Association.
- (5) A representative of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Adult Parole Operations.
- (6) A representative of the State Department of Mental Health.
- (7) A representative of the State Department of Social Services.
- (8) A representative of the State Department of Health Care Services.
- (9) A representative of the Labor and Workforce Development Agency.
- (10) A representative of the County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators Association.
- (11) A representative of the California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives.
- (12) An individual with experience in providing housing for low-income individuals.
- (13) A recognized expert in restorative justice programs.
- (14) An individual currently providing either academic or vocational education services within the state prison system.
- (15) An independent consultant with expertise in community corrections and reentry services.
- (16) A county public defender.
- (17) A private criminal defense attorney.
- (18) A chief probation officer.
- (19) A victims' representative.
- (20) A district attorney.

(21) A representative of a community-based organization who is familiar with the reentry needs of former offenders and who has experience advocating for former offenders and with providing reentry services in southern California.

(22) A representative of a faith-based organization who is familiar with the reentry needs of former offenders and who has experience advocating for former offenders and providing reentry services in northern California.

(b) The Reentry Advisory Committee shall meet upon call of the secretary. Members of the committee shall serve without compensation. Members of the committee shall not be reimbursed for travel or any other costs associated with serving on the committee.

(c) The Reentry Advisory Committee shall advise the secretary on all matters related to the successful statewide planning, implementation, and outcomes of all reentry programs and services provided by the department, with the goal of reducing recidivism of all persons under the jurisdiction of the department. The committee shall consider and advise the secretary on the following:

(1) Encouraging collaborative reentry activities among key stakeholders at the state and local levels.

(2) Developing a knowledge base of best practice models and programs related to what people need to successfully return to their communities from prison and what resources communities need to successfully provide for these needs.

(3) Incorporating reentry outcomes into department organizational missions and work plans as priorities.

(4) Funding of reentry programs.

(5) Promoting systems of integration and coordination.

(6) Measuring outcomes and evaluating the impact of reentry programs.

(7) Educating the public about reentry programs and their role in public safety.

(d) The committee shall produce reports at the request of the Legislature or the Governor. Any reports generated by the committee shall be posted on the department's Internet Web site.

(e) The secretary, in consultation with the committee, shall immediately seek and apply for grant funding available through the federal Second Chance Act of 2007: Community Safety Through Recidivism Prevention (Public Law 110-199).

(f) As required by the federal Second Chance Act of 2007, the secretary, in consultation with the committee, may develop a comprehensive strategic reentry plan containing annual and five-year performance goals or satisfy federal Second Chance Act of 2007 grant funding eligibility criteria by other means which may include, but shall not be limited to, current projects, initiatives, programs, or proposals the department or any of its partners may already have established or plan to develop. The comprehensive reentry plan shall seek to reduce the rate of recidivism by 50 percent over a five-year period for offenders released from prison, jail, or a juvenile facility who are served with funds provided under the federal Second Chance Act of 2007. The outcome measures for the plan developed pursuant to this subdivision may include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

- (1) Reduction in crime.
- (2) Increase in employment and educational opportunities.
- (3) Reduction in supervised release violations.
- (4) Increase in child support obligation compliance.
- (5) Reduction in drug and alcohol abuse.
- (6) Increase in participation in substance abuse and mental health services.
- (7) Other outcome measures that correlate positively with the reentry success rate of offenders who transition out of prisons, jails, or juvenile facilities.

(g) The secretary, in consultation with the committee, shall apply for any federal financial hardship exemptions available to states struggling to identify matching funds for federal Second Chance Act of 2007 grants. The secretary, in consultation with the committee, may develop the comprehensive strategic reentry plan or identify other means of satisfying the federal Second Chance Act of 2007 grant funding eligibility criteria in consultation with community members and stakeholders, including persons in the fields of public safety, juvenile and adult corrections, housing, health, education, substance abuse, child and family services, victim services, employment, and business, and members of nonprofit organizations working on reentry policy or providing reentry services.

(h) If grant funding is awarded for the purposes specified in subdivision (f), as required by the federal Second Chance Act of 2007, the secretary, in consultation with the committee, shall

submit a report to the Legislature and the United States Attorney General detailing the progress of grantees toward achieving strategic performance outcomes and describing other activities conducted by grantees to increase the success rates of the reentry population, such as programs that foster effective risk management and treatment, offender accountability, and community and victim participation. Any reports pursuant to this subdivision shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(i) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

Approved _____, 2010

Governor