

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 28, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1445**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Mitchell**  
*(Coauthor: Assembly Member Bonnie Lowenthal)*

January 4, 2012

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An act to amend Section 4025.5 of the Penal Code, relating to jails.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1445, as amended, Mitchell. Jails: inmate welfare fund.

Existing law provides that the sheriff of each county may maintain an inmate welfare fund to be kept in the treasury of the county into which profit from a store operated in connection with the county jail, 10% of all gross sales of inmate hobbycraft, and any rebates or commissions received from a telephone company, as specified, is required to be deposited. Existing law authorizes the sheriff to expend money from the fund to assist indigent inmates, prior to release, with clothes and transportation expenses, as specified.

Existing law, until January 1, 2013, creates a pilot program that authorizes the sheriff of certain counties and the Chief of Correction of Santa Clara County to spend money from the inmate welfare fund for the purpose of assisting indigent inmates with the reentry process within 14 days after the inmate's release from the county jail or other adult detention facility, as specified.

This bill would authorize the ~~pilot~~ program to operate indefinitely: *and would add the Counties of Marin, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura to the program.* The bill would authorize ~~those~~ *the* sheriffs ~~and the Chief of Correction~~ *of counties participating in the program, or, in Santa Clara County, the county officer responsible for operating the jails,* to

spend money from the inmate welfare fund for the purpose of assisting indigent inmates with the reentry process within 30 days after the inmate’s release from the county jail or other adult detention facility, as specified.

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. Section 4025.5 of the Penal Code is amended to  
2 read:  
3 4025.5. There is hereby created a ~~pilot~~ program in the Counties  
4 of Alameda, Kern, Los Angeles, *Marin*, Orange, Sacramento, San  
5 Bernardino, San Francisco, San Diego, *San Luis Obispo*, Santa  
6 Barbara, Santa Clara, ~~and~~ Stanislaus, *and Ventura*. In each county,  
7 the sheriff, or, in the County of Santa Clara, the ~~chief of correction~~  
8 *county officer responsible for operating the jails*, may expend  
9 money from the inmate welfare fund to provide indigent inmates,  
10 after release from the county jail or any other adult detention  
11 facility under the jurisdiction of the sheriff, or, in the County of  
12 Santa Clara, the ~~chief of correction~~ *county officer responsible for*  
13 *operating the jails*, assistance with the reentry process within 30  
14 days after the inmate’s release. The assistance provided may  
15 include, but is not limited to, work placement, counseling,  
16 obtaining proper identification, education, and housing.