

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 7, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 624

Introduced by Assembly Member Mitchell
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Alejo and Gordon)
(Coauthors: Senators De León and Lieu)

February 20, 2013

An act to add Section 4019.1 to the Penal Code, relating to county jails.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 624, as amended, Mitchell. County jail: rehabilitation credits.

Under existing law, when a prisoner is confined to county jail, an industrial farm, or a road camp, for each 4-day period in which he or she is confined, he or she may have one day deducted from his or her period of confinement, as specified.

This bill would authorize a sheriff, in addition to the credits otherwise earned, to award a prisoner program credit reductions from his or her term of confinement for successful completion of specific program performance objectives for rehabilitative programming, including academic programs, vocational programs, vocational training, substance abuse programs, and core programs such as anger management and social life skills. These program credit reductions may be for one to 6 weeks and may be forfeited in the same manner as other program credit reductions.

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 4019.1 is added to the Penal Code, to
2 read:

3 4019.1. (a) (1) In addition to credit awarded pursuant to
4 Section 4019, a sheriff may also award a prisoner program credit
5 reductions from his or her term of confinement as provided in this
6 section. A sheriff who elects to participate in this credit reduction
7 program shall create guidelines that provide for credit reductions
8 for inmates who successfully complete specific program
9 performance objectives for approved rehabilitative programming,
10 including, but not limited to, credit reduction of not less than one
11 week to credit reduction of not more than six weeks for each
12 performance milestone.

13 ~~(2) Regulations promulgated~~ *Guidelines adopted by a sheriff*
14 pursuant to this subdivision shall specify the credit reductions
15 applicable to distinct objectives in a schedule of graduated program
16 performance objectives concluding with the successful completion
17 of an in-custody rehabilitation program. ~~Commencing upon the~~
18 ~~approval of these~~ *Upon adopting the* guidelines, the sheriff shall
19 thereafter calculate and award credit reductions authorized by this
20 section. A prisoner may not have his or her term of imprisonment
21 reduced by more than six weeks for credits awarded pursuant to
22 this section during any 12-month period of continuous confinement.

23 (b) Program credit is a privilege, not a right. Prisoners shall
24 have a reasonable opportunity to participate in program credit
25 qualifying assignments in a manner consistent with institutional
26 security, available resources, and guidelines set forth by the sheriff.

27 (c) As used in this section, “approved rehabilitation
28 programming” shall include, but is not limited to, academic
29 programs, vocational programs, vocational training, substance
30 abuse programs, and core programs such as anger management
31 and social life skills.

32 (d) Credits awarded pursuant to this section may be forfeited
33 pursuant to the provisions of Section 4019. Inmates shall not be
34 eligible for program credits that result in an inmate being overdue
35 for release.

- 1 (e) This section shall only apply to inmates sentenced to county
- 2 jail pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170.

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