

SHORT TITLE: Prisons; authorizing the Department of Corrections to establish a special correctional center. Effective date.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

SENATE BILL NO. 1126

By: Hobson

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to prisons; authorizing the

Department of Corrections to establish a special correctional center; requiring special design and program considerations; specifying eligibility of offenders; construing authority; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 509.6 of Title 57, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The Department of Corrections is authorized, subject to legislative appropriation, to establish a special correctional center designed solely for the imprisonment of elderly persons and physically disabled persons in the custody of the Department. The Department shall consider the unique needs of the elderly offender and the physically disabled offender when designing the facility or renovating an existing facility for this purpose and when implementing any program or service for such persons.

Only the following offenders shall be eligible for placement in the facility:

1. Persons aged sixty-five (65) years or older who are deemed not suitable for placement in the general population of another facility; and

2. Persons who are physically disabled upon reception into the custody of the Department, or who become physically disabled during the term of their incarceration within the custody of the Department, and whose disability requires the continuous use of a wheelchair or other special equipment, or whose disability requires special assistance, services or accommodations which another facility is not designed or equipped to meet.

The provisions of this section shall not be construed to require the creation or construction of an entirely new correctional facility and the Department may consider renovation of an existing state building or correctional facility.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 1998.

46-2-2216

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