

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 47th Legislature (2000)

SENATE BILL 1241

By: Brown

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to prisons; amending 57 O.S. 1991, Section 521, as last amended by Section 20, Chapter 2, O.S.L. 1994 (57 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 521), which relates to commitment to the Department of Corrections, classification and assignment; requiring certain placement of nonviolent inmates prior to release; setting minimum term of placement prior to release; requiring employment and housing assistance for certain inmates prior to release; construing certain requirements; making gender neutral; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 1991, Section 521, as last amended by Section 20, Chapter 2, O.S.L. 1994 (57 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 521), is amended to read as follows:

Section 521. A. Whenever a person is convicted of a felony and is sentenced to imprisonment that is not to be served in a county jail, ~~he~~ the person shall be committed to the custody of the Department of Corrections and shall be classified and assigned to a correctional facility, ~~the Electronic Monitoring Program pursuant to Section 510.5 of this title, the Specialized Supervision Program pursuant to Sections 610 and 611 of this title, or to another facility~~ or program designated by the Department and authorized by law.

B. All persons convicted of nonviolent offenses and sentenced to a correctional facility shall be assigned to an accredited halfway house, transitional living facility or community corrections facility not less than ninety (90) days immediately prior to release

for the purpose of assisting the person in obtaining gainful employment and locating a suitable post-release residence. For purposes of this subsection, assistance in obtaining employment and a post-release residence shall be part of the function of the transitional placement and shall not be construed to require or authorize any financial assistance or expenditure of state funds to any inmate or to any contract provider for additional program services to an individual inmate.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

47-2-2577

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