

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 50th Legislature (2006)

SENATE BILL 1571

By: Williamson

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to corrections; amending 57 O.S. 2001, Section 504, which relates to the powers and duties of the Board of Corrections; directing the Board to develop certain compensation system for certain purpose; modifying references; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 2001, Section 504, is amended to read as follows:

Section 504. ~~(a)~~ A. The State Board of Corrections shall elect from its members a ~~chairman~~ chair, vice ~~chairman~~ chair and a secretary. It shall adopt rules ~~and regulations~~ for its government and may adopt an official seal for the Department of Corrections. Members shall be reimbursed for travel expenses, as provided in the State Travel Reimbursement Act while attending meetings of the Board or while performing other official duties.

~~(b)~~ B. The Board shall have the following powers and duties:

~~(1)~~ 1. To establish policies for the operation of the Department;

~~(2)~~ 2. To establish and maintain such institutions as are necessary or convenient for the operation of programs for the education, training, vocational education and rehabilitation of prisoners under the jurisdiction of the Department;

~~(3)~~ 3. To lease, from time to time, without restriction as to terms, any property which ~~said~~ the Board shall determine advisable to more fully carry into effect the operation of prison industries;

~~(4)~~ 4. To acquire, construct, extend, improve, maintain and operate any and all facilities of all kinds which in the judgment of the Board shall be necessary or convenient to foster the prison industries program;

~~(5)~~ 5. To require the Director of Corrections and any other personnel of the Department, when deemed necessary by the Board, to give bond for the faithful performance of their duties;

~~(6)~~ 6. To appoint and fix the salary of the Director;

~~(7)~~ 7. To enter into contracts with private prison contractors; and

~~(8)~~ 8. To provide training to employees of private prison contractors and other governmental entities on a fee basis.

C. The Board is hereby directed to establish a system of compensations which financially reward wardens, correctional officers, institutional staff or other employees of the Department of Corrections for significant changes in the prison culture or institutional paradigm that actually rehabilitate inmates and reduce recidivism. The Board shall define rehabilitation and recidivism and determine the criteria for measurement of the changes resulting in rehabilitation and reduction in recidivism, amounts of financial reward, and other details of the system. The system shall only reward actual reduction in recidivism as objectively measured by the Board. The Board shall consult with the Director of Corrections and may consult with other professionals in establishing this system of compensation. All financial awards shall be subject to funding by the Department.

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.