

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 53rd Legislature (2011)

3 SENATE BILL 793

By: Johnson (Constance)

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to offender programs; amending
8 Section 1, Chapter 320, O.S.L. 2010 (57 O.S. Supp.
9 2010, Section 510.8b), which relates to the pilot
10 diversion program; modifying certain reference to
program name; directing establishment of certain
programs upon availability of funds; and providing an
effective date.

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

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 320, O.S.L.
15 2010 (57 O.S. Supp. 2010, Section 510.8b), is amended to read as
16 follows:

17 Section 510.8b. A. The Oklahoma Legislature, recognizing the
18 need for increased community diversion programs and reentry services
19 for nonviolent offenders and inmates who are also the primary
20 caregiver to minor children, hereby authorizes the Department of
21 Corrections to establish ~~pilot~~ programs that shall consist of
22 private donations and state funds. As additional funds become
23 available, the Department shall ensure that the programs provided in
24 this section are established statewide. The purpose of the ~~pilot~~

1 programs shall be to provide diversion programs to reduce the high
2 rate of incarceration for nonviolent offenders who are also the
3 primary caregiver of minor children and to provide reentry services
4 for inmates with minor children that both employ evidence-based
5 practices and techniques.

6 B. The ~~pilot~~ diversion program may consist of, but shall not be
7 limited to, the following:

8 1. Identify the population of nonviolent offenders that are
9 also the primary caregiver of minor children who have been charged
10 with a criminal offense and are at risk of being incarcerated for
11 such offense; and

12 2. Develop a community-based diversion program that provides
13 comprehensive and gender-specific services to offenders who are also
14 the primary caregiver of minor children.

15 C. The ~~pilot~~ reentry program may consist of, but shall not be
16 limited to, the following:

17 1. Identify the population of nonviolent inmates that have been
18 sentenced to a term of incarceration under the custody of the
19 Department of Corrections who, prior to incarceration, were the
20 primary caregiver of minor children;

21 2. Develop a comprehensive, gender-specific reentry plan for
22 inmates who upon release from custody will be the primary caregiver
23 of minor children;

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1 3. Modify existing reentry programs and services to better
2 address the needs of inmates who upon release from custody will be
3 the primary caregiver of minor children;

4 4. Develop new reentry programs and services that focus on
5 parenting and life skills, family supports and employment skills;

6 5. Develop or modify existing substance abuse treatment and
7 rehabilitation programs offered to inmates who upon release from
8 custody of the Department of Corrections will be the primary
9 caregiver of minor children; and

10 6. Develop partnerships within communities to assist in
11 providing support services and employment opportunities to inmates
12 who will be the primary caregiver of minor children after the inmate
13 has been discharged from the custody of the Department of
14 Corrections.

15 D. The Department of Corrections shall promulgate rules
16 necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

17 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2011.

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