

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 56th Legislature (2018)

3 SENATE BILL 1487

By: Pittman

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5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to the Department of Corrections;  
8 requiring the Department of Corrections to establish  
9 a prison garden program; requiring the Department to  
10 identify institutions by certain date; authorizing  
11 the Department to contract with private entity;  
12 requiring produce to be donated or sold; providing  
13 requirements for use of funds; requiring  
14 establishment of program by certain date; providing  
15 for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

17 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
18 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 563.5 of Title 57, unless there  
19 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20 A. The Department of Corrections shall establish a prison  
21 garden program. The program shall aim to teach inmates skills in  
22 agriculture and food production in order to improve the outcomes and  
23 reduce recidivism rates of those reentering society. Inmates shall  
24 cultivate land within an institution to establish a garden and  
harvest produce.

1 B. On or before January 1, 2019, the Department of Corrections  
2 shall identify two (2) institutions that are best suited for  
3 establishing a prison garden program using the following criteria:

4 1. Institutions with the best physical characteristics to  
5 establish a garden; and

6 2. Institutions with the best capabilities to monitor and  
7 supervise inmates participating in a garden program.

8 C. The Department of Corrections is authorized to contract with  
9 or collaborate with a private entity or organization that  
10 specializes in establishing curriculum for a prison garden program.

11 D. The Department of Corrections shall develop procedures and  
12 requirements for those inmates wishing to participate in the prison  
13 garden program.

14 E. Produce harvested from the garden shall be donated to a  
15 nonprofit food bank or pantry or sold with the proceeds used to fund  
16 the continuance of the program.

17 F. The prison garden program shall be established no later than  
18 July 1, 2019.

19 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2018.  
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21 56-2-3016 QD 1/18/2018 6:16:00 PM  
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