

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 1298

By: Coleman of the Senate

and

Mize of the House

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to offenders; directing development of a comprehensive reentry program; creating a certificate of rehabilitation; allowing certain judicial consideration; requiring certain notification; stating certain application requirements; requiring certain database; 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 997 of Title 22, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Subject to availability of funds, the Department of Corrections shall develop and implement a comprehensive reentry program that will assist offenders with reentry into society upon release from incarceration. In addition to educational and vocational programs, reentry programs may include social and

1 behavioral programs, substance abuse counseling, mentoring programs,
2 financial planning, physical and mental health programs and housing
3 and federal assistance programs.

4 B. The certificate of rehabilitation shall include, but not be
5 limited to, the following information:

6 1. A general statement as to how the certificate would assist
7 the individual and why it should be granted, including all
8 programming completed while incarcerated;

9 2. A summary of the individual's criminal history with respect
10 to each offense, including the years sentenced and the years served
11 for each conviction or plea of guilty for each offense;

12 3. A summary of the individual's employment history, specifying
13 the name of, and dates of employment with each employer;

14 4. Verifiable references and endorsements;

15 5. The name of one or more immediate family members of the
16 individual, or other persons with whom the individual has a close
17 relationship, who will support the individual's release and reentry;
18 and

19 6. Any other information required by the Department of
20 Corrections.

21 C. The Department of Corrections shall specify eligibility
22 considerations and requirements for completion of the program
23 provided for in subsection A of this section.

1 D. An offender convicted of a violent crime, as defined in
2 paragraph 2 of Section 571 of Title 57 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
3 shall not be eligible for a certificate of rehabilitation.

4 E. A certificate issued under this section shall be revoked if
5 the individual to whom the certificate was issued is convicted of or
6 pleads guilty to a felony offense committed subsequent to the
7 issuance of the certificate of qualification for employment.

8 F. The Department of Corrections shall maintain a database that
9 identifies granted certificates and revoked certificates and tracks
10 the number of certificates granted and revoked, and if possible, the
11 industries, occupations and professions with respect to which the
12 certificates have been most applicable and the type of employers
13 that have accepted the certificates of rehabilitation.

14 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2020.

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