

Bill Summary
1st Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 983
Version:	INT
Request No.:	243
Author:	Sen. Newhouse
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Bill Analysis

SB 983 removes the ability for any established drug court program to further restrict eligibility to the program beyond violent offenses. Every non-violent offender must be screened for a substance abuse or mental health disorder. If the offender is suffering from a disorder, the offender must be given the opportunity to determine whether he or she is suitable for the drug court program or another treatment program intended to divert offenders from incarceration. Offenders may not request to participate in the program after being incarcerated.

The measure also changes the timeline for drug court hearings. The measure removes the phrase “no sooner than three days,” but leaves the maximum count of five days by which time an offender must be reviewed by the court.

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