

SB 689 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Prepared By: Julie Neburka, Budget Analyst

Meeting Dates: 6/12, 6/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Reestablishes Task Force on Reentry, Employment and Housing. Sunsets task force on December 31, 2018. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Topics the original task force did not address
- Specific obstacles facing women leaving prison
- Restrictions on obtaining professional licenses faced by persons with criminal convictions

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2015, the Task Force on Reentry, Employment and Housing (task force) was established. The task force sunset on December 31, 2016. On January 19, 2016, the task force issued an executive summary and report. That report noted that the task force should continue to work on several things, including supervision issues and reentry needs unique to women. Senate Bill 689-A reestablishes this task force and charges it with studying and recommending actions related to reentry into the community for persons leaving incarceration, expanding employment opportunities for persons with criminal convictions, identifying housing opportunities for persons with criminal convictions and creating certifications for persons with criminal convictions. SB 689-A requires the task force to submit a report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2018. The task force would sunset on December 31, 2018.