

SB 581 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

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Meeting Dates: 3/21, 4/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Expands eligibility for reduction in supervision to individuals on post-prison supervision whose sentences were imposed before January 1, 2022; makes the Department of Correction's rules related to the process for notification of eligibility for a reduction in supervision applicable to sentences imposed before January 1, 2022.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact.

SENATE VOTE: Ayes, 23; Nays, 6; Excused, 1.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Expanding existing incentive program
- Eligibility requirements
- Success of existing program

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2013, the Legislative Assembly enacted House Bill 3194, authorizing the Department of Corrections to oversee a statewide Earned Discharge Program, specific to probationers and local control clients. Since implementation of the Earned Discharge program, 9,228 people have been discharged from supervision, and 8,800 remain discharged. In 2021, the Legislative Assembly enacted House Bill 2172, which expanded eligibility for earning a reduction in supervision to include persons on any type of supervision who are not serving a sentence for a disqualifying crime. House Bill 2172 applies only to sentences imposed on or after January 1, 2022. The Department of Corrections has since adopted rules required by House Bill 2172 related to the process for notification of eligibility for a reduction in supervision, as well as standards for determining when a person is in compliance with requirements for earning a reduction.

Senate Bill 581 A expands eligibility for reduction in supervision to individuals on post-prison supervision whose sentences were imposed before January 1, 2022. It also makes the Department of Correction's required rules related to the process for notification of eligibility for a sentence reduction applicable to sentences imposed before January 1, 2022, in addition to those imposed on or after January 1, 2022.