

H.F. 553

First Engrossment

Subject Inmate Re-entry

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Overview

This bill contains a variety of policy reforms intended to aid inmates in their reentry into society after their term of imprisonment ends.

Summary

Section Description

1 Prison-issued identification card.

Authorizes the use of an inmate's prison-issued ID as a valid secondary form of identification when applying for a state-issued identification card or driver's license.

- 2 Release of inmates; duties of commissioner.
 - **Subd. 1. Duties upon release.** Details a variety of services the commissioner of corrections must provide to an inmate before releasing the inmate from incarceration.
 - **Subd. 2.** Assistance relating to birth certificate and identification cards. Directs the commissioner to assist inmates in securing copies of their birth certificates, upon request of an inmate. Directs the commissioner to work with the commissioner of public safety to provide inmates with no-fee state ID cards.
 - **Subd. 3.** Medical assistance or MinnesotaCare applications. Directs the commissioner to assist inmates in applying for government funded medical insurance prior to release from incarceration.
 - **Subd. 4. Medications.** Directs the commissioner to provide inmates in need of non-narcotic prescription medications a 30 day supply upon release.
 - **Subd. 5. Exception; release violators.** Authorizes the commissioner to not provide inmates who are incarcerated for release violations with the services required under this section, except subdivision 4.

Section Description

- 3 Homelessness mitigation plan; annual reporting on homelessness.
 - **Subd. 1. Homelessness mitigation plan; report.** Requires the commissioner to develop a homelessness mitigation plan for individuals released from prison.
 - **Subd. 2.** Reporting on individuals released to homelessness. Requires the commissioner to report annually to the legislature on released-inmate homelessness and the commissioner's mitigation plan.



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