

3/3/99 Do Pass
S 3/31/99 Judiciary

FEB 23 1999

LABOR & INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

HOUSE FILE 351
BY GARMAN

Passed House, ^(P.981) Date 3/31/99 Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes 96 Nays 1 Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to required conditions applying to agreements to
2 provide private industry employment for inmates of
3 correctional institutions.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:**

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1 Section 1. Section 904.809, subsection 1, Code 1999, is
2 amended by adding the following new paragraphs:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. h. An employer of inmates shall continue
4 to seek, and shall be permitted to hire, a noninmate employee
5 to fill a job of the employer otherwise filled by an inmate
6 employed pursuant to this section.

7 NEW PARAGRAPH. i. The state director shall provide notice
8 to, and an opportunity to comment by, a city or county prior
9 to entering into an agreement to provide employment for
10 inmates located in that city or county.

11 NEW PARAGRAPH. j. An employer of an inmate shall pay the
12 department an amount for the cost to the department of
13 providing health care for that inmate to the same extent that
14 the employer pays the cost of health care coverage for
15 noninmate employees.

16 EXPLANATION

17 This bill adds three additional conditions that apply to
18 all agreements to provide private industry employment for
19 inmates of correctional institutions.

20 First, the bill requires employers hiring inmates to
21 continue to seek noninmate employees for those positions and
22 permits the employers to hire a noninmate employee to fill
23 such a position.

24 Second, the bill requires that an affected city or county
25 be notified, and permitted to comment, concerning a proposed
26 agreement to employ inmate labor in that city or county.

27 Finally, the bill requires employers to pay the department
28 of corrections an amount for the cost to the department of
29 providing an inmate employed by that employer with health care
30 to the same extent that the employer pays the cost of health
31 care for noninmate employees.

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