

MAR 8 1999

JUDICIARY

HOUSE FILE 565
BY REYNOLDS, KREIMAN, DODERER,
MASCHER, and DAVIS

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act directing the department of corrections to evaluate the
2 potential rehabilitative effects of certain alternative
3 programs.

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

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HF 565

1 Section 1. ALTERNATIVE REHABILITATION PROGRAMS.

2 1. The department of corrections shall evaluate the
3 potential rehabilitative effectiveness of providing convicted
4 criminals with opportunities to participate in alternative
5 rehabilitation programs such as religious programs, stress
6 release therapy, or other faith-based or nonfaith-based
7 programs. The evaluation shall consider the rehabilitative
8 effects of these programs in both institutional and community-
9 based corrections settings. The department may review
10 alternative programs used in other states and consider
11 programs currently available in this state. The department
12 shall report on or before January 12, 2000, to the governor
13 and general assembly with its findings and any
14 recommendations.

15 2. If the department determines an alternative program may
16 be effective and can be instituted within existing budgetary
17 resources, the department may implement the program during the
18 fiscal year beginning July 1, 1999.

19 EXPLANATION

20 This bill directs the department of corrections to evaluate
21 the potential rehabilitative effects of alternative programs
22 for convicted criminals such as religious or nonfaith-based
23 programs or stress relief therapy.

24 The department is to report concerning the alternative
25 programs to the governor and general assembly by January 12,
26 2000. If the department determines an alternative program may
27 be effective and can be instituted within existing budgetary
28 resources, the department may implement the program during
29 fiscal year 1999-2000.

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