



Senate Fiscal Agency
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BILL ANALYSIS



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House Bill 5926 (Substitute H-1 as passed by the House)
Sponsor: Representative Steve Marino
House Committee: Workforce and Talent Development
Senate Committee: Judiciary

Date Completed: 12-10-18

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Corrections Code to expand the educational requirement under which a prisoner would be eligible for a certificate of employability, and delete a provision specifying that a certificate of employability is valid for four years after the date it is issued.

The Corrections Code requires the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) to issue a certificate of employability to a prisoner upon his or her release if all of the following apply:

- The prisoner successfully completed a career or technical education course.
- The prisoner received no major misconducts during the two years immediately preceding his or her release.
- The prisoner received no more than three minor misconducts during the two years immediately preceding his or her release.
- The prisoner received a silver level or better in his or her national work readiness certificate, or a similar score, as determined by the MDOC, on an alternative job skills assessment test administered by the MDOC.

Under the bill, the MDOC, instead, would have to issue a certificate of employability to a prisoner who, while incarcerated, successfully completed or earned one or more of the following, in addition to meeting the requirements currently specified in the Code pertaining to major and minor misconducts and the national work readiness certificate:

- A career and technical education course.
- At least 36 hours at an accredited postsecondary education institution.
- An associate or bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary education institution if at least 50% of the credit hours for that degree were completed while the prisoner was incarcerated.

The Code specifies that a certificate of employability must be issued only within 30 days before the prisoner is released from a correctional facility and is valid for four years after the date it is issued, unless revoked by the MDOC.

Under the bill, a certificate of employability would be valid unless revoked by the MDOC.

The bill would take effect 90 days after its enactment.

MCL 791.234d

Legislative Analyst: Stephen Jackson

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Fiscal Analyst: Abbey Frazier

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.