Assembly Bill No. 316–Assemblymen Thompson, Yeager, Ohrenschall; Araujo, Carrillo, Fumo, McCurdy II, Miller, Monroe-Moreno and Pickard

Joint Sponsors: Senators Segerblom; and Harris

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to offenders; revising provisions governing the services provided to an offender before the offender's release; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the Director of the Department of Corrections to provide certain information and services to an offender upon the offender's release from prison. (NRS 209.511) This bill authorizes the Director to provide: (1) certain offenders with evidence-based or promising practice reentry programs relating to employment not later than 3 months before each offender is projected to be released; and (2) mediation services to an offender and the offender's supporting family and friends. This bill also encourages the Director to work with the Nevada Community Re-Entry Task Force, established by the Governor pursuant to executive order, to align statewide reentry strategies and their implementation.

EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets fomitted material; is material to be omitted.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. NRS 209.511 is hereby amended to read as follows: 209.511 1. Before an offender is released from prison by expiration of his or her term of sentence, by pardon or parole, the Director may provide mediation services to the offender and the family members and friends of the offender who provide emotional, psychological and financial support to the offender.

- 2. Not later than 3 months before an offender is projected to be released from prison by expiration of his or her term of sentence, by pardon or parole, the Director may, if space is available, provide an eligible offender with one or more evidence-based or promising practice reentry programs to obtain employment, including, without limitation, any programs which may provide bonding for an offender entering the workplace and any organizations which may provide employment or bonding assistance to such a person.
- 3. When an offender is released from prison by expiration of his or her term of sentence, by pardon or by parole, the Director:



- (a) May furnish the offender with a sum of money not to exceed \$100, the amount to be based upon the offender's economic need as determined by the Director;
- (b) Shall give the offender notice of the provisions of chapter 179C of NRS and NRS 202.357 and 202.360;
- (c) Shall require the offender to sign an acknowledgment of the notice required in paragraph (b);
- (d) Shall give the offender notice of the provisions of NRS 179.245 and the provisions of NRS 213.090, 213.155 or 213.157, as applicable:
- (e) [Shall provide the offender with information relating to obtaining employment, including, without limitation, any programs which may provide bonding for an offender entering the workplace and any organizations which may provide employment or bonding assistance to such a person;
- (f) Shall provide the offender with a photo identification card issued by the Department and information and reasonable assistance relating to acquiring a valid driver's license or identification card to enable the offender to obtain employment, if the offender:
 - (1) Requests a photo identification card; or
- (2) Requests such information and assistance and is eligible to acquire a valid driver's license or identification card from the Department of Motor Vehicles;
- [(g)] (f) May provide the offender with clothing suitable for reentering society;
- [(h)] (g) May provide the offender with the cost of transportation to his or her place of residence anywhere within the continental United States, or to the place of his or her conviction;
- [(i)] (h) May, but is not required to, release the offender to a facility for transitional living for released offenders that is licensed pursuant to chapter 449 of NRS; and
- (i) Shall require the offender to submit to at least one test for exposure to the human immunodeficiency virus.
- [2.] 4. The costs authorized in paragraphs (a), (e), (f), [(g), (h) and (j)] (g) and (i) of subsection [1] 3 must be paid out of the appropriate account within the State General Fund for the use of the Department as other claims against the State are paid to the extent that the costs have not been paid in accordance with subsection 5 of NRS 209.221 and NRS 209.246.
- [3.] 5. The Director is encouraged to work with the Nevada Community Re-Entry Task Force established by the Governor pursuant to executive order, or its successor body, if any, to align



statewide strategies for the reentry of offenders into the community and the implementation of those strategies.

- **6.** As used in this section:
- (a) "Eligible offender" means an offender who is:
- (1) Determined to be eligible for reentry programming based on the Nevada Risk Assessment Services instrument, or its successor risk assessment tool; and
 - (2) Enrolled in:
- (I) Programming services under a reentry program at a correctional facility which has staff designated to provide the services: or
- (II) A community-based program to assist offenders to reenter the community.
- **(b)** "Facility for transitional living for released offenders" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0055.
- (b) (c) "Photo identification card" means a document which includes the name, date of birth and a color picture of the offender.
- (d) "Promising practice reentry program" means a reentry program that has strong quantitative and qualitative data showing positive outcomes, but does not have sufficient research or replication to support recognition as an evidence-based practice.

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Sec. 2. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2017.



