

Senate Bill 85

Published
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CHAPTER 300

AN ACT to create 56.065 of the statutes, relating to establishing a work release plan for prison inmates and granting rule-making power.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

56.065 of the statutes is created to read:

56.065 WORK RELEASE PLAN FOR PRISON INMATES. (1) The department of public welfare may grant work release privileges to any person incarcerated within the state prisons who has not been sentenced to a life term, providing the sentencing court has been notified and does not object within 10 days of receipt of notice.

(2) The department shall establish rules for the administration of the work release program and shall determine those inmates who may participate in the plan. If any inmate violates the conditions prescribed by the institution, his work release privileges may be withdrawn. Failure to report to or return from the planned employment shall be considered an escape under s. 946.42 (3).

(3) The department shall designate and adapt facilities of the state prisons for the purpose of quartering inmates with work release privileges. No inmate shall be granted work release privileges until such suitable quarters in a prison facility have been provided in the area of accepted or proffered employment.

(4) (a) Every inmate gainfully employed under a work release program shall be liable for the cost of his board and clothing at the prison and for any expenses incident to such employment.

(b) The wages of inmates gainfully employed shall be collected by the prison responsible for his care. Such wages are not subject to garnishment either in the hands of the employer or the prison during the inmate's term and shall be disbursed only as provided in this section, but for tax purposes they are income of the prisoner.

(5) The salaries or wages of any employed inmates shall be disbursed by the department in the order stated:

- (a) The board of the prisoner including food and clothing;
- (b) Necessary travel expense to and from work and other incidental expenses of the prisoner;
- (c) Support of the prisoner's dependents, if any;
- (d) Payment, either in full or ratably, of the prisoner's obligations acknowledged by him in writing or which have been reduced to judgment;
- (e) The balance, if any, to the prisoner upon his discharge.

SECTION 1. This bill is declared to be an emergency bill, recommended by the joint committee on finance, in accordance with the requirements of section 16.47 (2) of the statutes.

Approved October 11, 1965.
