

2015 DRAFTING REQUEST

Bill

Received: 11/24/2014 Received By: phurley
Wanted: As time permits Same as LRB:
For: Administration-Budget By/Representing: Ley
May Contact: Drafter: phurley
Subject: Correctional System - misc Addl. Drafters:
Extra Copies:

Submit via email: YES
Requester's email:
Carbon copy (CC) to: sbostatlanguage@webapps.wi.gov

Pre Topic:

DOA:.....Ley, BB0239 -

Topic:

Eliminate earmarks for reintegration services

Instructions:

See attached

Drafting History:

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Typed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
/P1	phurley 11/24/2014	kfollett 11/25/2014	jmurphy 11/25/2014	_____	_____	_____	_____
					srose 11/25/2014		

FE Sent For:

<END>

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/P1	phurley 11/24/2014	1/PIK-f 11/25	1/PIK-f 11/25	_____	_____		

FE Sent For:

<END>

Hurley, Peggy

From: Hanaman, Cathlene
Sent: Monday, November 24, 2014 2:16 PM
To: Hurley, Peggy; Hanaman, Cathlene
Subject: FW: Statutory Language Drafting Request - BB0239
Attachments: Repeal of Stat_Mandate Reint Svcs (13).pdf

From: Emily.Ley@wisconsin.gov [mailto:Emily.Ley@wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 24, 2014 1:51 PM
To: Hanaman, Cathlene
Cc: Frederick, Caitlin - DOA; Ley, Emily A - DOA; Connor, Christopher B - DOA
Subject: Statutory Language Drafting Request - BB0239

Biennial Budget: 2015-17

Topic: Reintegration Services Earmarks

Tracking Code: BB0239

SBO Team: AEJ

SBO Analyst: Ley, Emily - DOA
Phone: 608-266-2213
E-mail: Emily.Ley@wisconsin.gov

Agency Acronym: DOC

Agency Number: 410

Priority: Low

Intent:

Repeal s.301.067, requiring the department to purchase reintegration services from Madison-area Urban Ministry, Inc and Project Return.

Attachments: True

Please send completed drafts to SBOSatlanguage@webapps.wi.gov

RM
#13

**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
2015-17 Biennial Budget**

Topic: Repeal of Statutory Mandate for Purchase of Reintegration Services

Request

The Department of Corrections (DOC) requests the elimination of statutory language mandating the purchase of reintegration services annually in the amounts of \$50,000 each (\$100,000 total) from Madison area-Urban Ministry, Inc. and Project RETURN.

Problem Description

Statutory language currently mandates the use of two vendors by the Department for community reintegration services, limiting the Department's flexibility to provide appropriate oversight of services provided. The limitations also preclude the Department from competitive bidding and our normal contractual requirements which require program evaluations, adherence to standards, accountability for offender outcomes and assurance that funds are spent appropriately. In short, this statutory language provides an unfair and unchecked advantage for one of what is likely hundreds of interested vendors.

Background

repeal

2005 Act 25, the 2005-07 Biennial Budget, created §301.067 in Wisconsin Statutes, which mandated that DOC "provide \$50,000 each fiscal year to Madison-area Urban Ministry, Inc., and \$50,000 each fiscal year to Project RETURN for community reintegration services." This provision was incorporated into the biennial budget by the Joint Committee on Finance.

Analysis

Statutory Mandate for Purchase of Reintegration Services

DOC's interpretation of the statutory requirement under §301.067 is that it must contract for services on a permanent basis. Accordingly, DOC currently has contracts without end dates with Urban Ministry, Inc. and Project Return for the provision of community reintegration services.

Madison-area Urban Ministry, Inc. (MUM) is a non-profit based in Madison which was established in 1973 with the goals of "working for criminal justice system reforms and spurring social change in and around Dane County." After this statute was enacted as part of the 2005-07 Biennial Budget, MUM entered into a formal contract with DOC in November 2005. Prior to this, Region 1 had collaborated with MUM informally as a partner community organization.

Under the contract, MUM was to provide re-entry workshops and pre-release orientation and training sessions at Oregon Correctional Center, assist offenders in application for certain benefits (such as food stamps and referral to employment training), and provide Circle of Support services to the offender for a period of six months after release.

An internal review of the contract, dated April 25, 2008, indicated several program delivery concerns, including:

- inaccuracy of billings,
- poor communication concerning MUM events,
- a failure to provide outcome statistics in a timely manner, and
- few offenders receiving services after their release into the community.

As of July 14, 2007, nearly two years after contract implementation, only 17 participants had completed the 6 month Circle of Support period after their release, despite the assessment of 131 offenders prior to their release (the purpose of the assessment is to begin the Circle of Support process).

Project RETURN (Returning Ex-offenders To Urban Realities and Neighborhoods) is an interfaith ministry in the Milwaukee area “that exists to help men and women who have experienced incarceration, make a positive and permanent return to community, family, and friends.”⁵

Project RETURN assists offenders in developing their employment goals and finding employment. Services are similar to programming provided by Windows to Work and the Community Corrections Employment Program (CCEP) in the Milwaukee area. Offenders assisted by Project RETURN include those at Marshall Sherrer Correctional Center and the Milwaukee Women’s Correctional Center.

In FY10, Project RETURN’s annual report, submitted in accordance with the organization’s contract with DOC, indicated that “of 184 clients in the program, 59 became employed (32.1 percent).” This did not meet the outcome goal of 70 percent. Of the 59 clients who became employed, 40 maintained employment for over 90 days. The report stated that “the results of fiscal year 2009-10 tarnished the reputation of Project RETURN’s workforce development program. We are committed to not duplicate the mistakes of this past year...”

MUM and Project RETURN have demonstrated a willingness to improve service delivery over time, and have been good partners in the community. If the statutory mandate is repealed, DOC plans to continue to contract for similar reintegration services, but with added flexibility regarding program design, vendor selection, and the location of services to be provided, . This flexibility will enable the Department to better meet the needs of program participants receiving services. MUM and Project RETURN would be able to bid on service projects on an equal footing with other interested vendors.

If the statutory change is denied, DOC will continue to receive services from MUM and Project RETURN with limited ability to improve service value.

Prepared by: Michael Slana, Budget and Policy Analyst
240-5414

⁵ Project RETURN’s website www.projectreturnmilwaukee.org



DOA:.....Ley, BB0239 – Eliminate earmarks for reintegration services

FOR 2015-2017 BUDGET – NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

11-24-14

Don't Gen

1 AN ACT ...; relating to: the budget ✓

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM ✓

ADULT CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM ✓

Under current law, DOC may enter into contracts with public, private, or voluntary agencies to provide community reintegration services for persons who are released from a state correctional or penal institution. Current law requires DOC to contract with two vendors, the Madison-area Urban Ministry, Inc., and Project Return to provide those services.

The bill eliminates the requirement that DOC enter into a contract with the Madison-area Urban Ministry, Inc., and Project Return to provide community reintegration services.

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

2 SECTION 1. 301.067 of the statutes is repealed. 4

3 (END)



State of Wisconsin
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE



LRB-0704/P1
PJH:kjf:jm

DOA:.....Ley, BB0239 – Eliminate earmarks for reintegration services

FOR 2015-2017 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

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Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

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