
AN ACT to create 301.028 of the statutes; relating to: a program to reduce recidivism among youthful offenders.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Department of Corrections to design and implement a program to reduce recidivism among offenders who were under the age of 25 when they committed crimes. The bill requires the department to identify offenders who are serving sentences for Class C to Class I felonies or for misdemeanors and whose risk of recidivism would be reduced after participating in the program. The bill requires the department to house the offenders and administer the program in a separate facility or in a unit of a facility that is separate from the general prison population.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

SECTION 1. 301.028 of the statutes is created to read:

301.028 Youthful offender rehabilitative program. (1) The department shall design and administer an educational and treatment program that is
evidence-based and that is designed to reduce the risk of recidivism by prisoners who were under the age of 25 when they committed the violations for which they are incarcerated.

(2) The department shall identify prisoners who meet all of the following criteria for participation in the program designed under sub. (1):

(a) The prisoner is serving a sentence for committing one or more Class C to Class I felonies or one or more misdemeanors.

(b) The prisoner was under the age of 25 when he or she committed the felony or misdemeanor.

(c) The department has reason to believe that the prisoner’s participation in the program designed under sub. (1) would reduce his or her risk of recidivism.

(3) The department shall administer the program to the prisoners identified under sub. (2), and shall house the prisoners participating in the program, in a separate facility or in a segregated unit within a facility.