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HOUSE BILL NO. 564

House Amendments in [] — February 1, 1996

A BILL to amend and reenact § 53.1-45.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to prisoner work programs.

Patrons—Hamilton; Senator: Lambert

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 53.1-45.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 53.1-45.1. Work programs; agreements with other entities; disbursement of wages.

- A. The Director, with the prior approval of the Governor, may enter into an agreement with a public or private entity to operate a work program in a state correctional facility for prisoners confined therein.
- B. The provisions of any proposed agreement shall be submitted for review to a committee appointed by the Governor for that purpose. The committee shall include representatives from an employee association or organization, the business community, a chamber of commerce, an industry association, the Office of the Secretary of Commerce and Trade, and the Office of the Secretary of Public Safety.
- C. The Board shall promulgate regulations governing the form and review process for proposed agreements.
- D. Articles produced or manufactured and services provided by prisoners participating in such a program may be purchased as provided in § 53.1-47 and may be bought, sold or acquired by exchange on the open market through the participating public or private entity.
- E. The Director [shall arrange for compensation for such employment. Wages earned by prisoners shall be paid to the Director who] shall, in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Board, deduct from such wages, in the following order of priority, an amount to:
- 1. Meet the obligation of any judicial or administrative order to provide support and such funds shall be disbursed according to the terms of such order;
 - 2. Pay any fines, restitution or costs as ordered by the court; [and
- 3. Pay expenses made necessary by his participation in an educational or rehabilitative program; and
 - 4. 3. Defray [a portion of] the prisoner's keep.
- The balance shall be credited to the prisoner's account [or sent to his family in an amount the prisoner so chooses in accordance with §53.1-42].