

MINUTES

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS

DATE: March 1, 2017

The subcommittee meeting was called to order by Representative Pagel at 10:30 a.m.

Roll was taken: Present – Representatives Pagel, Yaroch, Afendoulis, VanSingel, Santana, and Durhal III
Absent – None

I. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Subcommittee Meeting

A motion was moved by Representative Afendoulis to approve the minutes from the subcommittee meeting held on February 22, 2017. The motion prevailed, a majority of the members voting in the affirmative.

II. Overview of Prisoner Education Programs

Kyle Kaminski, Legislative Liaison, and Heather Gay, Education Manager, appeared before the subcommittee to give an overview of education and vocational programming for prisoners. They provided subcommittee members with copies of a PowerPoint presentation.

Ms. Gay discussed the following:

- A.) Statistics relative to correctional education - the department operates 31 schools with approximately 267 staff, and there are approximately 7,500 prisoners in school on any given day.
- B.) Academic programming consists of Special Education, English as a Second Language, Adult Basic Education (K-8th), General Education Development (9th-12th), and post-secondary education. Post-secondary education includes Pell grant communities, self-pay college, federal Second Chance Act grant program, Pathways grant program, and correspondence courses.
- C.) Career and technical education consists of vocational counseling, vocational trades programs, and State Correctional Opportunities Rehabilitation and Education. Vocational trades programs include auto mechanics, carpentry, commercial drivers license, masonry/concrete, welding, computer service tech, custodial maintenance, food technology, horticulture, optical technology, printing, plumbing/electrical, computer numerically controlled/machine tool, robotics, forklift operation, and employment readiness programming.
- D.) Initiatives for correctional education include expansion of the Vocational Village, certificate of employability, vital documents, increased post-secondary education, and technology.
- E.) The importance of employment counselors who work to establish relationships with companies and organizations for job placement of prisoners upon their release.

Discussion ensued (questions and answers).

III. Announce Next Subcommittee Meeting

The next subcommittee meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. The meeting will be held in room 426 of the Capitol Building. The agenda will be an overview of Field Operations and Prisoner Reentry Programs and Services.

IV. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the subcommittee, Representative Pagel adjourned the subcommittee meeting at 11:35 a.m.