

Senate Bill 147

By: Senators Rhett of the 33rd, Albers of the 56th, Robertson of the 29th, Gooch of the 51st, Orrock of the 36th and others

AS PASSED

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Article 3 of Chapter 5 of Title 42 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to conditions of detention generally relative to correctional institutions of state and
3 counties, so as to provide consent for the release of certain criminal history, vocational, and
4 educational information for inmates upon release; to provide for issuance of an identification
5 card and a Program and Treatment Completion Certificate; to provide for related matters; to
6 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Article 3 of Chapter 5 of Title 42 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
10 conditions of detention generally relative to correctional institutions of state and counties,
11 is amended in Code Section 42-5-64, relating to educational programming and information
12 provided to released prisoners, by revising subsections (e) through (g) and adding a new
13 subsection to read as follows:

14 "(e) When a person is released from confinement from the department, the department
15 shall ~~issue to such releasee, with his or her consent, documents pertaining to:~~ upon request
16 from an eligible person, who is not an illegal alien as defined in Code Section 16-11-201,

provide such person with the relevant documentation to assist him or her in obtaining post-release employment and shall coordinate with the Department of Driver Services to provide a state issued identification card pursuant to Code Section 40-5-107 if such person does not have a current state issued identification card or driver's license. The department may also include a Program and Treatment Completion Certificate, if such person is eligible.

~~(1) The releasee's program history, including:~~

~~(A) Whether the releasee completed training requested by the State Board of Pardons and Paroles;~~

~~(B) Whether the releasee completed programs recommended by the department;~~

~~(C) Whether the releasee obtained a state approved high school equivalency (HSE) diploma or other educational degree while incarcerated; and~~

~~(D) The releasee's institutional work record, including skills obtained through any job training; and~~

~~(2) Other information considered relevant by the department.~~

~~(f) When a person is released from confinement from the department, the department may, in conjunction with the Department of Driver Services, issue such releasee a personal identification card pursuant to Code Section 40-5-107. The department may also issue a Program and Treatment Completion Certificate, if such releasee is eligible. For purposes of assisting an inmate in obtaining post-release employment, the department shall, upon request from an eligible person, provide the inmate with the following documentation upon such person's release:~~

~~(1) A copy of the vocational training record of the inmate, if applicable;~~

~~(2) A copy of the work record of the inmate, if applicable;~~

~~(3) A certified copy of the birth certificate of the inmate, if obtainable;~~

~~(4) A social security card or a replacement social security card for the inmate, if obtainable;~~

44 (5) A resume that includes any trade learned by the inmate and such inmate's proficiency
45 at such trade;

46 (6) Documentation that the inmate has completed a practice job interview; and

47 (7) A notification to the inmate if he or she is eligible to apply for a license from a state
48 entity charged with oversight of an occupational license or certification.

49 (g) The following categories of inmates are not required to complete resumes or practice
50 job interviews prior to their release from incarceration:

51 (1) Inmates 65 years of age or older;

52 (2) Inmates releasing to medical reprieve or discharging from a prison infirmary setting;

53 (3) Inmates releasing to the custody of another jurisdiction on a warrant or detainer; and

54 (4) Inmates that the department determines would be physically or mentally unable to
55 return to the workforce upon release from incarceration.

56 ~~(g)~~(h) The commissioner and other relevant state agencies shall be authorized to
57 promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this Code
58 section."

59 **SECTION 2.**

60 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.