

By: Representative Dickson

To: Corrections

HOUSE BILL NO. 659

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS TO CONDUCT
2 ONE OR MORE PILOT PROGRAMS BANNING SMOKING AT STATE CORRECTIONAL
3 FACILITIES; TO PROVIDE THAT PARTICIPANTS IN THE PILOT PROGRAMS
4 SHALL BE VOLUNTEERS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
5 SHALL PAY THE EXPENSES FOR ADMINISTERING SUCH PROGRAMS; TO REQUIRE
6 THE DEPARTMENT TO REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE CORRECTION COMMITTEES
7 ON THE STATUS OF THE PROGRAMS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

9 **SECTION 1.** (1) The Department of Corrections shall conduct
10 one or more pilot programs banning smoking both inside buildings
11 and on the grounds of state correctional facilities and shall
12 administer smoking cessation programs for staff and inmates.

13 (2) As used in this section, "tobacco products" means
14 cigars, cigarettes, snuff, loose tobacco or similar goods made
15 with any part of the tobacco plant that are prepared or used for
16 smoking, chewing, dipping or other personal use.

17 (3) The pilot smoking cessation programs shall be available
18 to inmates and staff on a volunteer basis, and no person shall be
19 compelled or coerced to participate.

20 (4) The smoking cessation program shall include instructions
21 and education that will help inmates and staff cease the use of
22 tobacco products and remain smoke free.

23 (5) The cost of administering the pilot smoking cessation
24 program shall be paid from existing funds available to the
25 Department of Corrections.

26 (6) The Department of Corrections may use services,
27 personnel and resources donated by nongovernmental agencies and
28 organizations to implement this program.



29 (7) The Department of Corrections shall report to both the
30 House and Senate Corrections Committees on or before January 15,
31 2010, on the progress and status of the pilot programs.

32 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
33 and after July 1, 2009.

