

By: Representative White

To: Corrections

HOUSE BILL NO. 883

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 47-5-940, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO EXTEND THE DATE OF THE REPEALER ON THE AUTHORITY OF THE  
3 DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS TO CONTRACT WITH THE BOLIVAR COUNTY  
4 REGIONAL FACILITY FOR A DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT PROGRAM; AND  
5 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 47-5-940, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
8 amended as follows:

9 47-5-940. (1) (a) The Department of Corrections may  
10 contract with the Bolivar County Regional Facility for a five-year  
11 pilot program dedicated to an intensive and comprehensive alcohol  
12 and other drug treatment program for not more than two hundred  
13 fifty (250) inmates. The Bolivar County Regional Facility shall  
14 have the option of canceling the contract for the drug treatment  
15 program after giving the Department of Corrections thirty (30)  
16 days' notice of its intent to cancel. The program shall be a  
17 prison-based treatment program designed to reduce substance abuse  
18 by inmates, correct dysfunctional thinking and behavioral



19 patterns, and prepare inmates to make a successful and crime-free  
20 readjustment to the community.

21 (b) The Department of Corrections shall reimburse the  
22 Bolivar County Regional Facility at the per diem rate allowed  
23 under Section 47-5-933.

24 (2) (a) An inmate who is within eighteen (18) months of his  
25 earned release date or parole date may be placed in the program.

26 (b) The Department of Corrections shall remove any  
27 inmate within seventy-two (72) hours after being notified by the  
28 Bolivar County Regional Facility that the inmate is violent or  
29 refuses to participate in the drug treatment program.

30 (3) The program shall consist, but is not limited to, the  
31 following components:

32 (a) An assessment and placement component using a  
33 recidivism needs assessment of the inmates.

34 (b) An intensive and comprehensive treatment and  
35 rehabilitation component which addresses the specific drug or  
36 alcohol problem of the inmate. This component shall include  
37 relapse prevention strategies and anger management strategies.

38 (c) An aftercare post-release component that has a  
39 specific transition plan for each inmate. The transition plan  
40 must address specific post-release needs such as employment,  
41 housing, medical care, relapse prevention and treatment. The plan  
42 shall require personnel to assist the inmate with these needs and  
43 to assist in finding community-based programs for the inmate. The



44 plan shall require the inmate to be tracked in at least thirty-day  
45 intervals to measure compliance with his established transition  
46 plan.

47 (d) A monitoring assessment of recidivism containing  
48 post-release history of substance abuse, breaches of trust,  
49 arrests, convictions, employment, community functioning, and  
50 marital and family interaction.

51 (4) The department shall file a report annually on the  
52 program with specific data on recidivism of inmates including the  
53 data required in subsection (3)(d).

54 (5) The program authorized under this section may be renewed  
55 if it meets performance requirements as may be determined by the  
56 Legislature.

57 (6) This section shall be repealed on July 3, \* \* \* 2021.

58 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
59 and after July 1, 2018.

