

By: Senator(s) Smith

To: Corrections

SENATE BILL NO. 2354
(As Passed the Senate)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 47-5-1123, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO EXTEND THE REPEALER ON THE SPECIAL NEEDS PRISON PROGRAM; AN ACT
3 TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS TO CONDUCT A PILOT
4 PROGRAM FOR INTENSIVE AND COMPREHENSIVE ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG
5 TREATMENT FOR INMATES AT THE LAUDERDALE SPECIAL-NEEDS FACILITY; TO
6 PLACE CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS ON THE PROGRAM; TO REQUIRE AFTER-CARE
7 MONITORING, SERVICES AND TRANSITION PLAN FOR INMATES; TO REQUIRE
8 RECIDIVISM REPORTS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPEAL OF THIS ACT; AND FOR
9 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

11 **SECTION 1.** Section 47-5-1123, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
12 amended as follows:

13 47-5-1123. Sections 47-5-1101 through 47-5-1123 shall repeal
14 July 1, 2004.

15 **SECTION 2.** (1) The Department of Corrections may establish
16 a five-year pilot program at the special-needs facility in
17 Lauderdale County to provide a two-hundred-fifty-bed unit
18 dedicated to an intensive and comprehensive alcohol and other drug
19 treatment program for inmates. The department shall establish
20 guidelines for the program consistent with the mission of public
21 safety. The program shall be a prison-based treatment program
22 designed to reduce substance abuse by inmates, correct
23 dysfunctional thinking and behavioral patterns, and prepare
24 inmates to make a successful and crime-free readjustment to the
25 community.

26 (2) (a) The department may contract with public, private or
27 nonprofit organizations to develop, operate and administer the
28 treatment program. If the department contracts for the private
29 operation of the program, the department shall reimburse the



30 private contractor at the per diem rate allowed regional
31 facilities under Section 47-5-933.

32 (b) An inmate who is within eighteen (18) months of his
33 earned release date or parole date may be placed in the program.

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

36 (a) An assessment and placement component using a
37 recidivism needs assessment of the inmates;

38 (b) An intensive and comprehensive treatment and
39 rehabilitation component which addresses the specific drug or
40 alcohol problem of the inmate. This component shall include
41 relapse prevention strategies, anger management strategies and
42 regimented discipline strategies.

43 (c) An aftercare post-release component that has a
44 specific transition plan for each inmate. The transition plan
45 must address specific post-release needs such as employment,
46 housing, medical care, relapse prevention and treatment. The plan
47 shall require personnel to assist the inmate with these needs and
48 to assist in finding community-based programs for the inmate. The
49 plan shall require the inmate to be tracked in at least thirty-day
50 intervals to measure compliance with his established transition
51 plan.

52 (d) A monitoring assessment of recidivism containing
53 post-release history of substance abuse, breaches of trust,
54 arrests, convictions, employment, community functioning, and
55 marital and family interaction.

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

59 (5) The program authorized under this section may be renewed
60 if it meets performance requirements as may be determined by the
61 Legislature.

62 (6) This section shall repeal on January 1, 2008.



63 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
64 and after its passage.

