



SPONSOR: Sen. Brown & Rep. Chukwuocha & Rep. Dorsey Walker
& Rep. Minor-Brown
Sens. Ennis, Hansen, Hocker, S. McBride, Pettyjohn,
Pinkney, Sokola, Sturgeon, Townsend; Reps. Baumbach,
Briggs King, Cooke, Kowalko

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE BILL NO. 158

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 11 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
CORRECTION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE:

Section 1. Amend Chapter 65, Title 11 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strike through and
insertions as shown by underline as follows:

§ 6532 Work by inmates.

(d) Inmates shall be compensated or awarded additional good time credits, at the discretion of and at rates fixed by
the Department, for labor performed, including institutional maintenance.

Section 2. Amend Chapter 43, Title 11 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strike through and
insertions as shown by underline as follows:

§ 4381 Earned good time.

(d) "Good time" may be earned by participation in education, rehabilitation, work, or other programs as designated
by the Commissioner. Good time may be awarded for satisfactory participation in approved programs at a rate of up to 5 10
days per calendar month. For offenders sentenced on or after August 8, 2012, up to 60 days of additional good time may be
awarded for successful completion of an approved program designed to reduce recidivism.

(e) No more than a total of ~~460~~ 180 days of "good time" may be earned in any 1 year consisting of 365 days
actually served. Good time credits shall be applied such that the resulting release date is not prior to the effective
completion date of the offender's approved program. For offenders serving multiple sentences, good time shall be credited
to the consolidated time being served, rather than individually to each sentence.

SYNOPSIS

This bill expands prison-based jobs to provide work experience and job skill training and will assist offenders with
reentry, while also maintaining Department of Correction ("DOC") facilities. DOC has not been able to increase the
number of offender job opportunities at its facilities or increase inmate wages due to budget constraints; and allowing
offenders to be either compensated or awarded additional good time credits will allow the Department to increase the
number of offenders eligible to work and provide them with additional opportunities to earn good time credits. Increasing
the number of good time credit days an offender may earn will enhance the incentive for inmates to participate in approved
programs and productive work.

Author: Senator Brown