

By: Allen

H.B. No. 966

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to information on classes or programs required to be completed before an inmate is released on parole.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 493, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 493.035 to read as follows:

Sec. 493.035. INFORMATION ON CLASSES AND PROGRAMS REQUIRED FOR RELEASE ON PAROLE. The department shall publish on the department's Internet website the information required under Section 508.056.

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 508, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 508.056 to read as follows:

Sec. 508.056. INFORMATION ON CLASSES AND PROGRAMS REQUIRED FOR RELEASE ON PAROLE. The board shall publish on the board's Internet website the following information for each class or program that the board requires an inmate to complete before releasing the inmate on parole:

- (1) curriculum for the class or program;
- (2) qualifications and relevant certifications of any instructor for the class or program;
- (3) completion rates of the class or program;
- (4) accommodations made for inmates with disabilities and inmates whose primary language is not English to ensure that those inmates are able to fully participate in the class or program;

1           (5) methods used to assess inmates for participation  
2 in the class or program;

3           (6) results of any independent evaluations used by the  
4 board when determining whether to require the class or program; and

5           (7) if the class or program is provided by a private  
6 vendor:

7                   (A) information on the contract between the  
8 department and the private vendor; and

9                   (B) the vendor's history of providing the class  
10 or program at other correctional facilities.

11           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.