

By: West

S.B. No. 1593

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to good conduct time earned by certain inmates.

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

SECTION 1. Section 498.003, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (d) and adding Subsections (f) and (g) to read as follows:

(d) An inmate may accrue good conduct time, in an amount determined by the department that does not exceed 15 days for each 30 days actually served, for diligent participation in an industrial program or other work program or for participation in an agricultural, educational, ~~or~~ vocational, or rehabilitative program provided to inmates by the department. For the purposes of this subsection, the term "participation in an educational program" includes the participation of the inmate as a tutor or a pupil in a literacy program authorized by Section 501.005. The department may not award good conduct time under this subsection for participation in a literacy program unless the department determines that the inmate participated in good faith and with diligence as a tutor or pupil. An inmate who participates in a program described by this subsection shall receive 45 days good conduct time on successful completion of the program.

(f) An inmate is not ineligible for participation in a program described by Subsection (d) solely because:

(1) previous participation in the program by the

1 inmate was unsuccessful due to an administrative action not related
2 to a disciplinary infraction committed by the inmate;

3 (2) the inmate has a prior conviction for an offense
4 that is not the offense for which the inmate is currently serving a
5 sentence; or

6 (3) the inmate is serving a sentence of 10 years or
7 longer.

8 (g) An inmate is ineligible for participation in a program
9 described by Subsection (d) if on more than one occasion
10 participation in the program by the inmate was unsuccessful because
11 of a disciplinary infraction committed by the inmate.

12 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.