

By: Turner of Harris, Marquez

H.B. No. 2161

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the issuance of a personal identification certificate
3 to present or former inmates of the Texas Department of Criminal
4 Justice.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 501.015(a), Government Code, is amended
7 to read as follows:

8 (a) When an inmate is discharged or is released on parole,
9 mandatory supervision, or conditional pardon, the department
10 [~~institutional division~~] shall provide the inmate with:

- 11 (1) suitable civilian clothing;
12 (2) money held in the inmate's trust account by the
13 director; [~~and~~]
14 (3) cash, in an amount and in the manner described by
15 Subsection (b); and
16 (4) a personal identification certificate obtained
17 under Section 501.0165, if available.

18 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 501, Government Code, is
19 amended by adding Section 501.0165 to read as follows:

20 Sec. 501.0165. STATE-ISSUED IDENTIFICATION; NECESSARY
21 DOCUMENTATION. (a) Before discharging an inmate or releasing an
22 inmate on parole, mandatory supervision, or conditional pardon, the
23 department shall:

- 24 (1) determine whether the inmate has:

1 (A) a valid license issued under Chapter 521 or
2 522, Transportation Code; or

3 (B) a valid personal identification certificate
4 issued under Chapter 521, Transportation Code; and

5 (2) if the inmate does not have a valid license or
6 certificate described by Subdivision (1), submit to the Department
7 of Public Safety on behalf of the inmate a request for the issuance
8 of a personal identification certificate under Chapter 521,
9 Transportation Code.

10 (b) The department shall submit a request under Subsection
11 (a)(2) as soon as is practicable to enable the department to provide
12 the inmate with the personal identification certificate when the
13 department discharges or releases the inmate.

14 (c) The department, the Department of Public Safety, and the
15 bureau of vital statistics of the Department of State Health
16 Services shall by rule adopt a memorandum of understanding that
17 establishes their respective responsibilities with respect to the
18 issuance of a personal identification certificate to an inmate,
19 including responsibilities related to verification of the inmate's
20 identity.

21 (d) The department shall reimburse the Department of Public
22 Safety or the Department of State Health Services for any costs
23 incurred by those agencies in performing responsibilities
24 established under this section.

25 (e) This section does not apply to an inmate who:

26 (1) is not legally present in the United States; or

27 (2) was not a resident of this state before the person

1 was placed in the custody of the department.

2 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.