

By: Madden, McReynolds, Marquez

H.B. No. 2289

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to discharging or releasing inmates from the Texas  
3 Department of Criminal Justice at or near certain department  
4 facilities.

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

6 SECTION 1. Chapter 493, Government Code, is amended by  
7 adding Section 493.029 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 493.029. LOCAL AND REGIONAL RELEASE AND DISCHARGE  
9 PROCEDURE. (a) The department shall establish a procedure through  
10 which an inmate being discharged from the department or being  
11 released on parole or to mandatory supervision is discharged or  
12 released, as applicable, from:

13 (1) the facility in which the inmate is serving the  
14 inmate's sentence; or

15 (2) the facility designated as a regional release  
16 facility under Subsection (b) that is nearest to the facility in  
17 which the inmate is serving the inmate's sentence.

18 (b) The department shall designate six or more facilities  
19 operated by the department as regional release facilities from  
20 which an inmate being discharged from the department or being  
21 released on parole or to mandatory supervision may be discharged or  
22 released, as applicable, rather than being released under  
23 Subsection (a)(1). If the department determines that discharging  
24 or releasing an inmate under Subsection (a) is not in the best

1 interest of the inmate or would threaten the safety of the public,  
2 the department may release the inmate from a regional release  
3 facility designated under this subsection other than the facility  
4 described by Subsection (a)(2).

5 SECTION 2. The Texas Department of Criminal Justice shall  
6 establish and implement the local and regional discharge and  
7 release procedure required by Section 493.029, Government Code, as  
8 added by this Act, as soon as possible after September 1, 2009, and  
9 in no event later than September 1, 2010.

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