

1-1 By: Madden, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Seliger) H.B. No. 3226
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 8, 2009;
1-3 May 8, 2009, read first time and referred to Committee on Criminal
1-4 Justice; May 20, 2009, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 20, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the payment of temporary housing costs for certain
1-9 individuals who are released or are eligible for release on parole
1-10 or to mandatory supervision.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 508, Government Code, is
1-13 amended by adding Section 508.157 to read as follows:

1-14 Sec. 508.157. TEMPORARY HOUSING ON RELEASE. (a) This
1-15 section applies only to inmates who are eligible for release on
1-16 parole or to mandatory supervision and to releasees.

1-17 (b) The department may issue payment for the cost of
1-18 temporary post-release housing for an inmate described by
1-19 Subsection (a) or for a releasee that meets any conditions or
1-20 requirements imposed by a parole panel and is located in the county
1-21 of legal residence of the inmate or releasee.

1-22 (c) The amount of payment issued under Subsection (b) may
1-23 not exceed an amount that is equal to the cost the department would
1-24 incur to incarcerate the inmate for the period for which the payment
1-25 is issued.

1-26 (d) The department shall issue payment under Subsection (b)
1-27 out of funds appropriated by the legislature to the department for
1-28 use in administering the parole system with respect to the housing
1-29 of inmates on their release.

1-30 (e) The executive director of the Texas Department of
1-31 Criminal Justice shall adopt rules as necessary to implement this
1-32 section, including rules that ensure that the food, hygiene, and
1-33 clothing needs of an inmate or releasee on whose behalf payment is
1-34 issued under this section are adequately met during the period for
1-35 which the payment is issued.

1-36 (f) Not later than September 30, 2010, for the first report
1-37 and September 30, 2011, for the second report, the department shall
1-38 submit to the Criminal Justice Legislative Oversight Committee a
1-39 report that covers the period of August 1 of the year preceding the
1-40 year in which the report is submitted through September 1 of the
1-41 year in which the report is submitted and that includes:

1-42 (1) the total number of inmates and releasees on whose
1-43 behalf payment is issued under this section;

1-44 (2) the total dollar amount of payments issued under
1-45 this section; and

1-46 (3) the county of release and the county of legal
1-47 residence of each inmate or releasee on whose behalf payment is
1-48 issued under this section.

1-49 (g) This subsection and Subsection (f) expire January 1,
1-50 2012.

1-51 SECTION 2. Section 508.141(e), Government Code, is amended
1-52 to read as follows:

1-53 (e) A parole panel may release an inmate on parole only
1-54 when:

1-55 (1) arrangements have been made for the inmate's
1-56 employment or for the inmate's maintenance and care, which may
1-57 include the issuance of payment for the cost of temporary
1-58 post-release housing under Section 508.157; and

1-59 (2) the parole panel believes that the inmate is able
1-60 and willing to fulfill the obligations of a law-abiding citizen.

1-61 SECTION 3. The executive director of the Texas Department
1-62 of Criminal Justice shall adopt the rules required by Section
1-63 508.157, Government Code, as added by this Act, not later than
1-64 January 1, 2010.

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