

By: Marquez, Hodge

H.B. No. 3649

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a policy regarding the receipt of books by mail by an
3 inmate in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 501, Government Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 501.0051 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 501.0051. RECEIPT OF BOOKS BY MAIL. (a) The
8 department shall establish a policy that permits an inmate to
9 receive by mail reference books and other educational materials
10 from a volunteer organization that operates programs described by
11 Section 501.009, regardless of whether the organization provides
12 those programs to inmates housed in facilities operated by the
13 department.

14 (b) The department may adopt rules as necessary to implement
15 this section, including rules that define the terms "reference
16 books" and "educational materials."

17 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
18 of this Act, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice shall
19 establish the policy required by Section 501.0051, Government Code,
20 as added by this Act.

21 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
22 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
23 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
24 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

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1 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.