

By: Toth

H.B. No. 2812

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to an annual report by the reentry and integration  
3 division and the parole division of the Texas Department of  
4 Criminal Justice.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 501, Government Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 501.103 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 501.103. ANNUAL REPORT. (a) Not later than December 31  
9 of each year, the department's reentry and integration division and  
10 parole division shall jointly prepare and submit an annual report  
11 to:

12 (1) the governor;  
13 (2) the lieutenant governor;  
14 (3) the speaker of the house of representatives;  
15 (4) the standing committees of the house and senate  
16 primarily responsible for criminal justice issues and corrections  
17 issues; and

18 (5) the reentry task force.

19 (b) The report must include the following information about  
20 parole during the year in which the report is submitted:

21 (1) the number of referrals of releasees for  
22 employment, housing, medical care, treatment for substance abuse or  
23 mental illness, education, or other basic needs;

24 (2) the outcome of each referral;

1           (3) the identified areas in which referrals are not  
2 possible due to unavailable resources or providers;

3           (4) community resources available to releases  
4 including but not limited to faith-based and volunteer  
5 organizations; and

6           (5) parole officer training.

7           (c) The report must include the following information about  
8 reentry and reintegration during the year in which the report is  
9 submitted:

10           (1) the outcomes of programs and services that are  
11 available to releasees based on follow-up inquiries evaluating  
12 clients' progress after release;

13           (2) the common reentry barriers identified during  
14 releasees' individual assessments, including in areas of  
15 employment, housing, medical care, treatment for substance abuse or  
16 mental illness, education, or other basic needs;

17           (3) the common reentry benefits and services that  
18 reentry coordinators help releasees obtain or apply for;

19           (4) available community resources including but not  
20 limited to faith-based and volunteer organizations; and

21           (5) reentry coordinator training.

22           (d) The report required by Subsection (a) must be made  
23 available to the public.

24           SECTION 2. The reentry and integration division and the  
25 parole division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice shall  
26 submit the initial report required by Section 501.103, Government  
27 Code, as added by this Act, not later than December 31, 2014.

1 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.