

AN ACT

relating to providing discharged or released inmates with certain documents, including documents to assist the inmate in obtaining employment.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 501, Government Code, is amended by adding Sections 501.0155 and 501.0166 to read as follows:

Sec. 501.0155. PROVIDING DISCHARGED OR RELEASED INMATE WITH DOCUMENTATION FOR EMPLOYMENT. When an inmate who is able to work, as determined by the department based on the inmate's age or mental or physical condition, is discharged or released on parole, mandatory supervision, or conditional pardon and the intended residence designated by the inmate is in this state, the department shall provide the inmate with relevant documentation to assist the inmate in obtaining post-release employment, including:

(1) as applicable, a copy of the inmate's job training record described by Section 497.094 and the inmate's work record described by Section 497.095; and

(2) for an inmate who completed a prerelease program required by a parole panel as a condition of release:

(A) a resume that includes any trade learned by the inmate and the inmate's proficiency at that trade; and

(B) documentation that the inmate has completed a

1 practice job interview.

2 Sec. 501.0166. PROVIDING DISCHARGED OR RELEASED INMATE WITH
3 BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND SOCIAL SECURITY CARD. (a) In addition to
4 complying with the requirements of Section 501.0165 regarding a
5 license or personal identification certificate for an inmate being
6 discharged or released on parole, mandatory supervision, or
7 conditional pardon, the department must:

8 (1) determine whether the inmate has a:

9 (A) certified copy of the inmate's birth
10 certificate; and

11 (B) copy of the inmate's social security card;
12 and

13 (2) if the inmate does not have a document described by
14 Subdivision (1), submit to the appropriate entity on behalf of the
15 inmate a request for the issuance of the applicable document.

16 (b) The department shall submit a request under Subsection
17 (a)(2) as soon as is practicable to enable the department to provide
18 the inmate with the applicable document when the department
19 discharges or releases the inmate.

20 (c) This section does not apply to an inmate who:

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

22 (2) was not a resident of this state before the person
23 was placed in the custody of the department.

24 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect January 1, 2020.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 918 was passed by the House on May 2, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 141, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 918 was passed by the Senate on May 17, 2019, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor