

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1844

H.P. 1228

House of Representatives, April 30, 2025

An Act to Expand the State's Workforce by Supporting the Transition from Incarceration to Employment

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative SAYRE of Kennebunk.
Cosponsored by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland and
Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, HASENFUS of Readfield, MATHIESON of
Kittery, MILLIKEN of Blue Hill, PLUECKER of Warren, SARGENT of York, SINCLAIR of
Bath, WARREN of Scarborough.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 34-A MRSA §1402, sub-§15 is enacted to read:

15. Reentry services. Within the limits of available resources, the commissioner shall establish and maintain a reentry services program for residents of correctional facilities that makes available, as appropriate, reentry services in the following areas:

A. Health and wellness, including, but not limited to, accessing available MaineCare and veterans' benefits and connecting with community providers and other resources for treating and managing substance use disorder and maintaining physical and mental health;

B. Financial literacy and planning, including, but not limited to, information about opening a bank account, managing a budget and building and maintaining credit;

C. Employment preparation, including, but not limited to, writing a resume, searching for employment, information about obtaining a driver's license, information about obtaining work-related certification or licensure and locating and securing housing;

D. Community and family integration, including, but not limited to, voter registration information, information about services offered through the statewide 2-1-1 telephone number designated pursuant to Title 35-A, section 7108 and connecting with community support programs, including programs offering education on conflict resolution, establishing and maintaining relationships and rejection management techniques; and

E. Technology training, including, but not limited to, information about computer literacy programs and avoiding Internet scams.

SUMMARY

This bill directs the Commissioner of Corrections to establish and maintain reentry services for residents of correctional facilities. Reentry services must include services related to health and wellness, financial literacy and planning, employment preparation, community and family integration and technology training.