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By: Delegates Love, Perry, Cadden, Leopold, and Clagett
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 1997
Assigned to: Ways and Means

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Correctional Institutions - Education - Correctional Librarians**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Education Coordinating Council for Correctional
4   Institutions to annually recommend to the Governor a level of staffing by
5   correctional librarians; and providing that the recommended level of funding may
6   not be less than the level in a certain fiscal year.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8   Article - Education
9   Section 22-102
10   Annotated Code of Maryland
11   (1997 Replacement Volume)

12   SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14   **Article - Education**

15 22-102.

16   (a) The Education Coordinating Council for Correctional Institutions shall
17 develop and recommend an educational program for each correctional institution in the
18 Division of Correction. The programs shall meet the special needs and circumstances of
19 the inmates in the institution.

20   (b) (1) The Council shall adopt regulations for all correctional institutions in
21 the Division of Correction for the implementation of a mandatory education program for
22 all inmates who fail to attain a minimum educational standard as set forth in this
23 subsection.

24   (2) The regulations adopted by the Council shall require that:

25   (i) The educational standard shall be the attainment of a General
26 Education Diploma (G.E.D.) or a verified high school diploma;

27   (ii) The regulations shall only apply to any inmate who:

28   1. Is received by the Division of Correction after July 1, 1987;

1   2. Has 18 months or more remaining to be served before a
2 mandatory supervision release date;

3   3. Is not exempted due to a medical, developmental, or learning
4 disability; and

5   4. Does not possess a General Education Diploma (G.E.D.) or
6 a verified high school diploma;

7   (iii) Any inmate who is not exempted under subparagraph (ii)3 of this
8 subsection shall participate in:

9   1. The mandatory education program for at least 120 calendar
10 days; or

11   2. A vocational training program; and

12   (iv) The Division of Correction shall report to the Parole Commission
13 the academic progress of an inmate in the mandatory education program.

14   (c) On or before June 30 of each year, the Council [shall]:

15   (1) SHALL report its activities to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1312 of
16 the State Government Article, to the General Assembly; AND

17   (2) SHALL RECOMMEND TO THE GOVERNOR THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL
18 OF STAFFING BY CORRECTIONAL LIBRARIANS FOR INCLUSION IN THE
19 PREPARATION OF THE GOVERNOR'S ANNUAL BUDGET; HOWEVER, THE
20 RECOMMENDATION MAY NOT BE LESS THAN THE LEVEL OF STAFFING IN FISCAL
21 YEAR 1997.

22   (d) (1) The Council shall actively advocate and promote the interests of
23 educational programs and opportunities in correctional institutions. The Council shall
24 seek to ensure that a quality education and equal educational opportunity are available to
25 all inmates at correctional institutions.

26   (2) The Council shall on a regular basis review the program of instruction
27 used in educational programs at correctional institutions to ensure that the unique
28 educational needs of the populations of correctional institutions are being satisfactorily
29 met.

30   (3) The Council shall include in its review:

31   (i) Curriculum guides;

32   (ii) Courses of study;

33   (iii) Resource materials;

34   (iv) Textbooks;

35   (v) Supplementary readers;

36   (vi) Materials of instruction;

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1   (vii) Visual and auditory aids;

2   (viii) Supplies;

3   (ix) Teacher performance; and

4   (x) Other teaching aids.

5   (4) Based on their review, the Council shall recommend and advocate
6 improvements to the educational programs at correctional institutions.

7   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 October 1, 1997.