

SENATE, No. 2006

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 5, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator SANDRA B. CUNNINGHAM

District 31 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Awards credits to reduce the parole eligibility date of inmates who participate in college and associate degree educational programming.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning inmates and amending R.S.30:4-92.

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3 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
4 *of New Jersey:*

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6 1. R.S.30:4-92 is amended to read as follows:

7 30:4-92. The inmates of all correctional and charitable,
8 hospital, relief, and training institutions within the jurisdiction of
9 the Commissioner of Corrections shall be employed in productive
10 occupations consistent with their health, strength, and mental
11 capacity and shall receive compensation for this employment as the
12 commissioner shall determine.

13 For the purposes of this section, "productive occupations" shall
14 include all **【education】** educational programs, including college and
15 associate degree educational programs, and workforce skills or
16 vocational training programs made available to inmates in these
17 institutions.

18 Compensation for inmates of correctional institutions may be in
19 the form of cash at established inmate wage rates or remission of
20 time from sentence or both. Remission from the time of sentence
21 shall not exceed one day for each five days of productive
22 occupation, but remission granted under this section shall in no way
23 affect deductions for good behavior or provided by law.

24 From moneys paid to inmates of correctional institutions, the
25 superintendent of the institution shall withdraw sufficient moneys,
26 in an amount not to exceed one-third of the inmate's total income,
27 as may be required to pay any assessment, restitution or fine
28 ordered as part of any sentence, and is authorized to withdraw from
29 the remainder of the inmate's total income an amount not to exceed
30 one-third of the total income as may be required to pay costs and
31 fees charged or owing, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1995, c.254
32 (C.30:7E-2).

33 In addition, all inmates classified as minimum security and who
34 are considered sufficiently trustworthy to be employed in honor
35 camps, farms or details shall receive further remission of time from
36 sentence at the rate of three days per month for the first year of
37 employment and five days per month for the second and each
38 subsequent year of employment.

39 (cf: P.L.2015, c.241, s.2)

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41 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month
42 next following the date of enactment.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】 in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

S2006 CUNNINGHAM

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STATEMENT

This bill requires credits to reduce the parole eligibility date of an inmate to be awarded to an inmate who participates in college and associate degree educational programming.

Under current law, an inmate may receive certain credits for “productive occupations” that reduce the inmate’s parole eligibility date, provided the parolee has not been sentenced to a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment. These credits do not affect deductions for good behavior or other credits provided by law.

Under current law, productive occupations include all education and workforce skills or vocational training programs made available to inmates. This bill provides that productive occupations also include college and associate degree educational programming made available to inmates.