



SENATOR BORRIS L. MILES
DISTRICT 13

PRESS RELEASE
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Media Contact: Justin Concepcion
Office: 512-463-0113
Justin.Concepcion@senate.texas.gov

Senator Miles Champions Legislation to Reduce Recidivism Rates in Texas
SB 677 passes unanimously out of Texas Senate

Senator Miles is proud to announce that Senate Bill 677 has passed the full Texas Senate unanimously.

"This legislation will be vital to those in our criminal justice system," said Senator Miles. "Too many inmates have trouble finding a job after they complete their sentence. This bill would reduce the recidivism rate, and help former inmates stay out of prison by allowing them to get the education and training necessary to get a job."

The purpose of SB 677 is for the Windham School District and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to put together a task force to assess the daily activities of inmates. After assessing the daily activities, they will determine what type of certificates, industry-recognized credentials, high school and/or college credit can be awarded to inmates.

"Former inmates face numerous obstacles when attempting to transition back into normal life. Many have issues getting a job, finding proper housing and integrating into society. SB 677 will allow a task force to review an inmate's daily activity to assess which certification or education credit would suit them. After an inmate completes their sentence, they will have a better opportunity to transition back into society," said Senator Miles.

Representative James White filed the companion bill HB 553, which is currently awaiting passage out of House Calendars Committee. SB 677 will now go to the Texas House of Representatives for further consideration.

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CAPITOL OFFICE
3.S3
P.O. Box 12068
Austin, TX 78711
512-463-0113

COMMITTEES
Agriculture, Water & Rural Affairs
Health & Human Services
Natural Resources & Economic Development
Nominations

DISTRICT OFFICE
5302 Almeda, Suite A
Houston, TX 77004
713-665-8322
713-665-0009 Fax