

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 9, 2007

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007—08 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1049**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Solorio**

February 22, 2007

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An act to add and repeal Section 3054.5 of the Penal Code, relating to parole.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1049, as amended, Solorio. Parole: reentry programs.

Existing law, until January 1, 2010, requires the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to establish a pilot program in East Palo Alto for parolees returning to East Palo Alto to conduct needs-based assessments of the individual parolees, partner with East Palo Alto police officers, and blend enforcement and programming services, as specified.

This bill would require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to establish reentry programs for parolees between 18 and ~~24~~ 23 years of age to assist in community reintegration upon discharge from prison in the ~~cities~~ *Cities of Gardena, Visalia, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Moreno Valley, San Diego, Anaheim, El Monte, San Jose, Venice, Fresno, and Marysville* *Adelante, Anaheim, El Monte, Fresno, Los Angeles, Marysville, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, Stockton, Venice, and Visalia*. The reentry programs would include construction training, academic services, counseling ~~and mentoring~~, and tracking of graduates after completion of the program. The bill would require the department to maintain statistical information related to the reentry programs, as specified. The bill would also provide that these provisions would be repealed on January 1, 2011.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Section 3054.5 is added to the Penal Code, to  
2 read:

3     3054.5. (a) This section shall be known as the “Rebuilding  
4 Communities and Rebuilding Lives Act of 2007.”

5     (1) The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, to the  
6 extent existing funds are available or additional funds are  
7 appropriated, shall establish a reentry program specifically  
8 targeting offenders who will be between 18 and 23 years of age  
9 upon their release or discharge from a facility or program operated  
10 by the department. The department shall preenroll eligible youths  
11 into eligible community programs located in the Cities of Adelante,  
12 Anaheim, El Monte, Fresno, Los Angeles, Marysville, San Diego,  
13 San Francisco, San Jose, Stockton, Venice, and Visalia. Priority  
14 shall be given to programs that have existed for at least one year  
15 prior to the effective date of this section and to those eligible  
16 community programs that have operated at any time in the previous  
17 three years.

18     (2) Beginning January 1, 2008, the department shall identify  
19 each youth that meets the eligibility requirements of this section  
20 and is scheduled to be released or discharged no later than  
21 December 31, 2008. No less than 45 days prior to the scheduled  
22 release date of an eligible youth, the department, in coordination  
23 with the Director of the Employment Development Department  
24 and the appropriate eligible community program, shall enroll a  
25 youth in any eligible program located in a city no more than 60  
26 miles from his or her last known address, or intended release city.  
27 Participation of an eligible youth in any eligible community  
28 program shall commence no less than 72 hours upon release or  
29 discharge from a facility operated by the department.

30     (b) For purposes of this section, an “eligible community  
31 program” means, at a minimum, a program that provides all of  
32 the following:

33     (1) Integrated education and job training services and activities  
34 on an equally divided basis, with 50 percent of participants’ time  
35 spent in classroom-based instruction, counseling, and leadership

1 *development instruction, and 50 percent of participants' time spent*  
2 *in experiential job training.*

3 *(A) The education component described in this paragraph shall*  
4 *include basic skills instruction, secondary education services, and*  
5 *other activities designed to lead to the attainment of a high school*  
6 *diploma or its equivalent. The curriculum for this component shall*  
7 *include math, language arts, vocational education, life skills*  
8 *training, social studies related to the cultural and community*  
9 *history of the participants, and leadership skills.*

10 *(B) Bilingual services shall be available for individuals with*  
11 *limited English proficiency, and an English learning curriculum*  
12 *shall be provided where feasible and appropriate.*

13 *(C) A program shall have a goal of a minimum*  
14 *teacher-to-student ratio of one teacher for every 18 students.*

15 *(D) The job training component described in paragraph (1)*  
16 *shall involve work experience and skills training apprenticeships*  
17 *related to construction and rehabilitation activities described in*  
18 *paragraph (4).*

19 *(2) Assistance in attaining postsecondary education and in*  
20 *obtaining financial aid shall be made available to participants*  
21 *prior to graduation from the program.*

22 *(3) Counseling services designed to assist participants in*  
23 *positively participating in society, including all of the following,*  
24 *as necessary:*

25 *(A) Outreach, assessment, and orientation.*

26 *(B) Individual and peer counseling.*

27 *(C) Life skills training.*

28 *(D) Drug and alcohol abuse education and prevention.*

29 *(E) Referral to appropriate drug rehabilitation, medical, mental*  
30 *health, legal, housing, and other community services and resources.*

31 *A program shall have a goal of a minimum*  
32 *counselor-to-participant ratio of one counselor for every 28*  
33 *participants.*

34 *(4) Acquisition, rehabilitation, acquisition and rehabilitation,*  
35 *or construction of housing and related facilities to be used for the*  
36 *purpose of providing home ownership for disadvantaged persons,*  
37 *residential housing for homeless individuals and very low income*  
38 *families, or transitional housing for persons who are homeless,*  
39 *ill, deinstitutionalized, or who have disabilities or special needs.*

1 (5) Leadership development training that provides participants  
2 with meaningful opportunities to develop leadership skills,  
3 including decisionmaking, problem solving, and negotiating. A  
4 program shall encourage participants to develop strong peer group  
5 ties that support their mutual pursuit of skills and values.

6 (c) Each eligible community program shall work cooperatively  
7 with local probation and parole offices to ensure appropriate  
8 oversight of any eligible youth who enrolls and participates in the  
9 program for the duration of the eligible youth's participation and  
10 term of probation or parole. Eligible community programs shall  
11 meet the requirements described in Article 4 (commencing with  
12 Section 9800) of Chapter 2 of Part 1 of Division 3 of the  
13 Unemployment Insurance Code.

14 (d) For purposes of this section, an "eligible youth" means a  
15 person between 18 and 23 years of age, who is economically  
16 disadvantaged, as defined in Section 12511 of Title 42 of the United  
17 States Code, and who is under the custody and control of the  
18 Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation on or after January  
19 1, 2008, and whose release or departure date is scheduled for any  
20 date prior to January 1, 2010.

21 (e) No more than 500 eligible youth shall be enrolled pursuant  
22 to this section. Priority of enrollment shall be given to eligible  
23 youth who the department has determined to be gang affiliated,  
24 or who have an immediate family member who has been identified  
25 as gang affiliated.

26 (f) The department shall allocate twenty thousand dollars  
27 (\$20,000) per year, or a fraction thereof, to each eligible  
28 community program that enrolls an eligible youth for each year  
29 of participation, or fraction thereof, to defray the costs of the  
30 services provided by the eligible community program. The  
31 department shall provide no less than 50 percent of each annual  
32 payment at the time of enrollment of the eligible youth, and any  
33 portion of an annual payment shall be made to the eligible  
34 community program upon completion of each year of participation.  
35 Each eligible community program shall return any fraction of  
36 payment to the department commensurate with the participant's  
37 actual participation.

38 (g) The department shall maintain statistical information on  
39 the success of this program, including, but not limited to, the  
40 number of eligible youth served and the rate of return to prison

1 *for those eligible youth who enroll and participate in an eligible*  
2 *community program. This information shall be provided to the*  
3 *Legislature upon request.*

4 *(h) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2011,*  
5 *and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that*  
6 *is enacted before January 1, 2011, deletes or extends that date.*

7 SECTION 1. ~~Section 3054.5 is added to the Penal Code, to~~  
8 ~~read:~~

9 ~~3054.5. (a) (1) The Department of Corrections and~~  
10 ~~Rehabilitation, to the extent existing resources are available or~~  
11 ~~additional resources for these purposes are appropriated, shall~~  
12 ~~establish reentry programs in the cities of Gardena, Visalia, San~~  
13 ~~Francisco, Los Angeles, Moreno Valley, San Diego, Anaheim, El~~  
14 ~~Monte, San Jose, Venice, Fresno, and Marysville.~~

15 ~~(2) The reentry programs shall target parolees between 18 to~~  
16 ~~24 years of age to assist in the successful reintegration of those~~  
17 ~~parolees into the community upon release or discharge from prison~~  
18 ~~so that those young individuals can transform themselves into~~  
19 ~~productive citizens with viable futures.~~

20 ~~(b) The reentry programs shall enroll parolees in job training~~  
21 ~~programs as described in Article 4 (commencing with Section~~  
22 ~~9800) of Chapter 2 of Part 1 of Division 3 of the Unemployment~~  
23 ~~Insurance Code. The reentry programs may include, but are not~~  
24 ~~limited to, the following components:~~

25 ~~(1) Construction or rehabilitation of very low income housing,~~  
26 ~~thereby providing training to parolees in the construction trades.~~

27 ~~(2) Enrollment of parolees in academic services leading to a~~  
28 ~~high school diploma or equivalency.~~

29 ~~(3) Personal counseling and mentoring of parolees from adult~~  
30 ~~role models.~~

31 ~~(4) Tracking of graduates after completion of the program to~~  
32 ~~offer additional support.~~

33 ~~(e) The department shall maintain statistical information related~~  
34 ~~to these reentry programs, including, but not limited to, the number~~  
35 ~~of parolees served and the rate of return to prison for those parolees.~~  
36 ~~This information shall be provided to the Legislature upon request.~~

1     ~~(d) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2011,~~  
2     ~~and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that~~  
3     ~~is enacted before January 1, 2011, deletes or extends that date.~~

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