

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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HOUSE BILL 72*

Short Title: Inmate Pilot Program.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Cunningham; Bowman, Fussell, Gardner, Gist, Russell, and Stamey.

Referred to: Courts and Justice.

February 8, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A PILOT PROGRAM DESIGNED TO REHABILITATE
2 PRISON INMATES AND REDUCE RECIDIVISM BY UTILIZING A COURSE
3 OF STUDY BASED ON DEVELOPING POSITIVE MENTAL ATTITUDES.
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5 Whereas, the State of North Carolina has a strong interest in maintaining
6 discipline and order among the inmates in its prison system, and in lowering the rate of
7 recidivism by making offenders more aware of the need to achieve goals without
8 violating the rights of others; and

9 Whereas, self-esteem and self-discipline are key elements in helping inmates
10 develop employable skills and positive work habits; and

11 Whereas, other states have had highly successful programs utilizing the
12 Napoleon Hill Foundation's PMA Science of Success course, which focuses on the
13 development of self-esteem, self-discipline, and other principles of successful living;

14 Now, therefore,

15 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

16 Section 1. The Division of Prisons of the Department of Correction shall
17 undertake a pilot program to determine whether an inmate study course based on
18 developing positive mental attitudes through self-esteem and self-discipline will affect
19 the incidence of institutional disciplinary infractions and recidivism. The pilot program
20 shall be set up at a minimum of six sites statewide: one site shall be a female facility,
21 two sites shall be youth facilities, and three sites shall be adult facilities. Of the three
22 adult facilities, one site shall be close custody, one site shall be medium custody, and
23 one site shall be minimum custody. In the discretion of the Department, an additional

1 site at one of the new facilities may be selected at which the pilot program will be a
2 component of a specialized program.

3 Sec. 2. The Division shall undertake the pilot program within funds
4 available, and shall report on the implementation and operation of the pilot program to
5 the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and to the General
6 Research Division and the Fiscal Research Division no later than May 1, 1994.

7 Sec. 3. The pilot program will be tracked and evaluated by the Department of
8 Correction with an evaluation model that is consistent with existing models that show
9 the program's impact on participants, both during incarceration and after release. The
10 Department will file a written evaluation of the pilot program and any recommendations
11 with the Chairmen of the Appropriations Committees of the General Assembly on or
12 before May 1, 1995.

13 Sec 4. This act is effective upon ratification and shall expire on June 30,
14 1995.