

1 H.476  
2 Introduced by Representatives Connor of Fairfield, Burke of Brattleboro, Carr  
3 of Brandon, Cina of Burlington, Conquest of Newbury,  
4 Donovan of Burlington, Head of South Burlington, Hill of  
5 Wolcott, LaLonde of South Burlington, Masland of Thetford,  
6 McCullough of Williston, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Stevens of  
7 Waterbury, Till of Jericho, Troiano of Stannard, Weed of  
8 Enosburgh, and Yantachka of Charlotte

9 Referred to Committee on

10 Date:

11 Subject: Corrections; correctional facilities; treatment programming

12 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the

13 Department of Corrections, in consultation with the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Department of Mental

14 Health, to study and make recommendations for developing holistic recovery services treatment

15 programming at State and out of state correctional facilities for detained and sentenced inmates offenders in need of substance

16 abuse recovery treatment services.

17 An act relating to treatment programming at correctional facilities

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1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 Sec. 1. TREATMENT PROGRAMMING AT CORRECTIONAL

3 FACILITIES; STUDY

4 (a) The Commissioner of Corrections, in consultation with the

5 Deputy Commissioner of ~~Mental Health~~, shall study approaches to ~~treatment~~  
~~recovery in State~~

6 correctional facilities for ~~offenders-inmates~~ who are in need of substance abuse

7 ~~recovery programming services in order to provide a holistic approach to alcohol and~~

87 ~~other drug treatment~~. The study shall include ~~but not be limited to:~~

98 (1) ~~The scope of recovery services for inmates a review of treatment regimens~~  
~~for inmates, including:~~

109 (A) screening by a medical and mental health professional upon entry

110 into a correctional facility;

121 (B) continuing preexisting prescriptions and medication treatments

132 during an inmate's incarceration;

143 (C) providing supportive and ~~treatment~~recovery-enhancing activities

15 throughout the inmate's incarceration, including ~~use of case workers to assist~~

1614 ~~inmates with treatment during incarceration~~, recovery coaching, and certified

1715 drug and alcohol counselors, ~~technology-enable substance abuse recovery programs;~~  
and

1816 (D) developing relationships with community providers ~~once as an~~

1917 ~~offender-inmate~~ approaches release;

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1 (E) Financial implications of the recommendations;

42 (2) ways to link ~~treatment-recovery~~ programming with increased secondary  
and

23 postsecondary educational opportunities, and job skills and training

34 opportunities; and

45 (3) opportunities to develop and use self-help peer groups to assist in

56 drug and alcohol treatment in maintaining abstinence.

67 (b) On or before December 1, 2017, the Department of Corrections shall

78 submit a report to the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions and

89 on Human Services, ~~the Administrative Judge or designee,~~ and the Senate  
Committees on Institutions and on Health

910 and Welfare on the findings of the study described in subsection (a) of this

1011 section. The report shall include recommendations for legislative action to

1112 implement new ~~treatment programming services~~ based on the findings of the study to  
include, but not be limited to, mandatory and/or voluntary services, costs, the number  
of inmates potentially impacted, operational challenges.

1213 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

1314 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.