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2002 MAR 21 P 6: 43

GATICE WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

Regular Session, 2002

ENROLLED

Committee Substitute for SENATE BILL NO. 465

(By Senators Love and Hunter)

In Effect hinely days from Passage

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OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

Senate Bill No. 465

(SENATORS LOVE AND HUNTER, original sponsors)

[Passed March 7, 2002; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section three-a, article one, chapter twenty-five of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to removing the ten percent holding of inmate funds requirement for inmates the warden determines are likely to serve the remainder of their natural lives in prison due to their age and the length of their sentences.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section three-a, article one, chapter twenty-five of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 1. ORGANIZATION, INSTITUTIONS AND CORRECTIONS MANAGEMENT.

§25-1-3a. Trustee accounts and funds, earnings and personal property of inmates.

- (a) The commissioner of corrections is authorized to establish at each institution under his or her jurisdiction a "trustee fund". The warden or administrator of each 3 institution shall receive and take charge of the money and personal property, as defined by policy, of all inmates in 5 his or her institution and all money or personal property, as defined by policy, sent to the inmates or earned by the 7 inmates as compensation for work performed while they are domiciled there. The warden or administrator shall 9 credit the money and earnings to the inmate entitled to it 10 and shall keep an accurate account of all the money and 11 personal property so received, which account is subject to 12 examination by the state commissioner of corrections. The 13 warden or administrator shall deposit the moneys in one 14 or more responsible banks in accounts to be designated a 15 "trustee fund". 16
 - 17 (b) For all inmates, except those serving life without
 18 mercy and those the warden determines are likely to serve
 19 the remainder of their natural lives in the custody of the
 20 division of corrections due to their age and the length of
 21 their sentences, the warden or administrator shall keep in
 22 an account at least ten percent of all money earned during
 23 the inmate's incarceration and pay the money to the
 24 inmate at the time of the inmate's release.
 - 25 (c) The commissioner of corrections may direct that 26 offenders who work in community work programs, includ-27 ing work release inmates who have obtained employment, 28 make reimbursement to the state toward the cost of his or 29 her incarceration.
 - (d)(1) Prior to ordering an incarcerated offender to make
 reimbursement toward the costs of his or her incarceration, the commissioner, or his or her designee, shall
 consider the following:
 - 34 (A) The offender's ability to pay;

- 35 (B) The nature and extent of the offender's responsibili-36 ties to his or her dependents, if any;
- (C) The length of probable incarceration under thecourt's sentence; and
- 39 (D) The effect, if any, that reimbursement might have on 40 the offender's rehabilitation.
- (2) No order of reimbursement entered pursuant to this
 section may exceed five hundred dollars per month unless
 the offender gives his or her express consent.
- 44 (3) The commissioner of corrections shall, prior to the 45 beginning of each fiscal year, prepare a report that details 46 the average cost per inmate incurred by the division for 47 the care and supervision of those individuals in his or her 48 custody.
- 49 (e) The chief executive officer of any correctional 50 institution, on request of an inmate, may expend up to one 51 half of the money earned by the inmate on behalf of the 52 family of the inmate if the ten percent mandatory savings 53 has first been set aside and other fees owed by the inmate 54 have been paid. The remainder of the money earned, after deducting amounts expended as authorized, shall be 55 accumulated to the credit of the inmate and be paid to the 56 57 inmate at times as may be prescribed by rules. The funds so accumulated on behalf of inmates shall be held by the 58 chief executive officer of each institution, under a bond 59 approved by the attorney general. 60
- (f) The warden or administrator shall deliver to the 61 inmate at the time he or she leaves the institution, or as 62 soon as practicable after departure, all personal property, 63 moneys and earnings then credited to the inmate, or in 64 case of the death of the inmate before authorized release 65 from the institution, the warden or administrator shall 66 deliver the property to the inmate's personal representa-67 tive. In case a conservator is appointed for the inmate 68 while he or she is domiciled at the institution, the warden 69

Enr. Com. Sub. for S. B. No. 465] 4

- 70 or administrator shall deliver to the conservator, upon
- 71 proper demand, all moneys and personal property belong-
- 72 ing to the inmate that are in the custody of the warden or
- 73 administrator.

Governor

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