

AMENDMENTS TO LB896

Introduced by Judiciary.

1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new
2 sections:

3 Section 1. Section 83-182.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative
4 Supplement, 2020, is amended to read:

5 83-182.01 (1) Structured programming shall be planned for all adult
6 persons committed to the department. The structured programming shall
7 include any of the following: Work programs, vocational training,
8 behavior management and modification, money management, and substance
9 abuse awareness, counseling, or treatment. Programs and treatment
10 services shall address:

11 (a) Behavioral impairments, severe emotional disturbances, and other
12 mental health or psychiatric disorders;

13 (b) Drug and alcohol use and addiction;

14 (c) Health and medical needs;

15 (d) Education and related services;

16 (e) Counseling services for persons committed to the department who
17 have been physically or sexually abused;

18 (f) Work ethic and structured work programs;

19 (g) The development and enhancement of job acquisition skills and
20 job performance skills; and

21 (h) Cognitive behavioral intervention.

22 Structured programming may also include classes and activities
23 organized by inmate self-betterment clubs, cultural clubs, and other
24 inmate-led or volunteer-led groups.

25 (2) The goal of such structured programming is to provide the skills
26 necessary for the person committed to the department to successfully
27 return to his or her home or community or to a suitable alternative

1 community upon his or her release from the adult correctional facility.
2 The Legislature recognizes that many inmate self-betterment clubs and
3 cultural clubs help achieve this goal by providing constructive
4 opportunities for personal growth.

5 (3) If a person committed to the department refuses to participate
6 in the structured programming described in subsection (1) of this
7 section, he or she may ~~shall~~ be subject to disciplinary action, except
8 that a person committed to the department who refuses to participate in
9 structured programming consisting of classes and activities organized by
10 inmate self-betterment clubs, cultural clubs, or other inmate-led or
11 volunteer-led groups shall not be subject to disciplinary action.

12 (4) Any person committed to the department who is qualified by
13 reason of education, training, or experience to teach academic or
14 vocational classes may be given the opportunity to teach such classes to
15 committed offenders as part of the structured programming described in
16 this section.

17 ~~(5)(a) (5)~~ The department shall evaluate the quality of programs
18 funded by the department, including ~~The evaluation shall focus on~~
19 whether program participation reduces recidivism. ~~The Subject to the~~
20 ~~availability of funding, the~~ department shall ~~may~~ contract with an
21 ~~independent contractor or~~ academic institution for each program
22 evaluation. Each program evaluation shall be standardized and shall
23 include a site visit, interviews with key staff, interviews with
24 offenders, group observation, if applicable, and review of materials used
25 for the program. The evaluation shall include adherence to concepts that
26 are linked with program effectiveness, such as program procedures, staff
27 qualifications, and fidelity to the program model of delivering offender
28 assessment and treatment. Each program evaluation shall also include a
29 rating on the effectiveness of the program and feedback to the department
30 and the office of Inspector General of the Nebraska Correctional System
31 concerning program strengths and weaknesses and recommendations for

1 better adherence to evidence-based programming, if applicable.

2 (b) The evaluation shall also make recommendations regarding the
3 availability of programs throughout the correctional system, the ability
4 to deliver the programs in a timely manner, and the therapeutic
5 environment in which such programs are delivered at each facility and
6 shall include a cost-benefit analysis of each program, if applicable.

7 Program evaluations shall be prioritized in the following order: (i)
8 Clinical treatment programs; (ii) nonclinical treatment programs; and
9 (iii) other structured programs. Clinical treatment programs shall be
10 evaluated at least once every three years and nonclinical treatment and
11 structured programs shall be evaluated on a regular basis.

12 (c) For purposes of this subsection:

13 (i) Clinical treatment program means a program designed to address
14 specific behavioral health needs delivered by a licensed behavioral
15 health professional; and

16 (ii) Nonclinical treatment program means a cognitive behavioral
17 intervention program delivered by volunteers or department staff.

18 Sec. 2. Original section 83-182.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative
19 Supplement, 2020, is repealed.