LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 518

Introduced by Juarez, 5; McKinney, 11. Read first time January 21, 2025 Committee: Judiciary

- A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to treatment and corrections; to amend section
 83-1,100.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change
 requirements for a report by the Department of Correctional Services
 and the Board of Parole; and to repeal the original sections.
- 5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 83-1,100.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of
 Nebraska, is amended to read:

83-1,100.03 (1) The board, in consultation with the department, 3 4 shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to reduce the number of inmates under the custody of the department who serve their entire 5 sentence in a correctional facility and are released without supervision. 6 7 The rules and regulations shall establish clear guidelines and procedures to ensure that each parolee is subject to a minimum of nine months of 8 9 supervision and shall place priority on providing supervision lengths 10 that enable meaningful transition periods for all offenders. The rules and regulations shall ensure that each inmate eligible for parole is 11 assessed for risk of reoffending using a validated risk and needs 12 13 assessment provided by the department and shall incorporate into the release decision an inmate's assessed risk of reoffending, past criminal 14 history, program completion, institutional conduct, and other individual 15 characteristics related to the likelihood of reoffending into parole 16 17 release decisions.

(2) By February 1 of each year, the board and the department shall
 <u>electronically</u> submit a report to the Legislature, the Supreme Court, and
 the Governor. The report shall:

21 (a) Describe that describes the percentage of offenders sentenced to 22 the custody of the department who complete their entire sentence and are 23 released with no supervision; -

24 (b) Document The report shall document characteristics of the 25 individuals released without supervision, including the highest felony 26 class of conviction, offense type of conviction, most recent risk 27 assessment, status of the individualized release or reentry plan, and 28 reasons for the release without supervision; -

(c) Provide The report also shall provide recommendations from the
 department and board for changes to policy and practice to meet the goal
 of achieving a reduction in the number of inmates under the custody of

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the department who serve their entire sentence in a correctional facility and are released without supervision; and . The report to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically.

4 <u>(d) Contain information regarding:</u>

5 (i) The number of inmates eligible for parole who remain
6 incarcerated, disaggregated by the reason for such status;

7 (ii) Revocations of parole during the preceding year, disaggregated
8 by the reason for revocation;

9 (iii) Hearings to grant or revoke parole conducted in the preceding
 10 year;

11 (iv) Rehabilitation and recidivism of parolees;

<u>(v) Cost savings to the state resulting from individuals being</u>
 <u>paroled rather than incarcerated; and</u>

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<u>(vi) Other matters the director deems appropriate.</u>

(3) The department, in consultation with the board, shall maintain a list of individuals who are eligible for parole but are expected to complete their entire sentence in the custody of the department and be released with no supervision. This list shall be used to facilitate the placement of committed offenders in community work release and reentry centers under the Community Work Release and Reentry Centers Act.

Sec. 2. Original section 83-1,100.03, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is repealed.

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