

HB 813 -- ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING TASK FORCE

SPONSOR: El-Amin

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on Urban Issues by a vote of 11 to 0.

This bill establishes the Task Force on Alternative Sentencing within the Department of Corrections to develop a statewide plan for alternative sentencing programs for nonviolent offenders. The plan must include drug and alcohol rehabilitation, job training and placement, and possible cost savings from creating new alternatives to incarceration. The membership of the task force will consist of six probation and parole officers, three business executives, a judge, a representative from the Department of Economic Development, and the directors of the Department of Corrections and the Division of Probation and Parole. The task force must report its findings to the Governor and General Assembly by December 31, 2006.

The provisions of the bill will expire on May 31, 2007.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Effect on General Revenue Fund of a Cost of Less than \$100,000 in FY 2006, a Cost of Less than \$100,000 in FY 2007, and an Income of \$0 in FY 2008. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that a statewide plan needs to be developed for alternative sentencing for nonviolent offenders which in turn will benefit the state as well as the offenders.

Testifying for the bill was Representative El-Amin.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Robert Triplett, Legislative Analyst