HOUSE FISCAL AGENCY

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS

REP. AMOS O'NEAL

CHAIR

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 2, 2023 10:30 AM Room 308, House Office Building

The House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Corrections was called to order by the Chair, Representative O'Neal.

The Chair requested attendance be called:

Present: Reps. O'Neal, McKinney, Morse, Snyder, Slagh, Bollin, and Lightner.
Absent: None.
Excused: None.

Kyle Kaminski, Offender Success Administrator and Legislative Liaison, appeared before the subcommittee to provide a brief overview of the Department of Corrections and to discuss supervision and reentry services. He discussed the differences between county supervision of misdemeanor probationers and department supervision of parolees and felony probationers. He discussed the department's focus on assessing risks and needs of offenders in order to plan programming that will help to make them successful when they return to their communities. Needs include education and skill development, employment, obtaining vital documents, housing, and fostering long-term self-sufficiency by offering opportunities and short-term supports. The department contracts with agencies that provide services to returning citizens, including housing, social support services, job placement, health and behavioral health services, as well as specialized services (e.g., mental health, sex offender, substance abuse). The Field Operations Administration is focused on developing a model that prioritizes changing offender behavior instead of just sanctioning it. Discussion ensued. Questions and answers followed.

Dan Varner, President and CEO, Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit, and Greg Anderson, Director of Goodwill Flip the Script, appeared before the subcommittee. Mr. Varner briefly described Goodwill Industries and Mr. Anderson outlined focus areas of the Goodwill Flip the Script program: behavioral therapy, education, financial literacy, supportive services, employment preparation and placement, post-placement retention support, and successful completion of court-ordered sentences. Discussion ensued. Questions and answers followed.

There being no further business before the subcommittee, Representative O'Neal adjourned the meeting at 11:55 AM.

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Representative Amos O'Neal, Chair

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