



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS
REP. BRADLEY SLAGH
CHAIR

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

9:00 AM

Room 308, House Office Building

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

The Chair requested attendance be called:

Present: Reps. Slagh, Lightner, Brann, Borton, T. Carter, and Sabo.

Absent: Rep. C.A. Johnson.

Excused: Rep. C.A. Johnson.

Representative T. Carter moved to excuse Representative C.A. Johnson from the meeting. There being no objection the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Representative Borton moved to adopt the meeting minutes from March 3, 2021. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Kyle Kaminski, Offender Success Administrator and Legislative Liaison, appeared before the subcommittee (virtually) to provide an overview of offender success/prisoner reentry initiatives and success of the initiatives on recidivism rates. He discussed the department's focus on assessing risks and needs of offenders in order to plan programming for them that will help to make them successful when they return to their communities. Needs include education and skill development, employment, 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. The 3-year return to prison rate remains at an all-time low, 26.6%. Questions and answers followed.

Dan Varner, President and CEO, Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit, and Niko Dawson, Director of Goodwill Flip the Script, appeared before the subcommittee (virtually). Mr. Varner briefly described Goodwill Industries and Mr. Dawson outlined focus areas of the Goodwill Flip the Script program: personal responsibility and life skills, employment preparation and placement, post-employment support, individualized coaching, education recovery, and financial literacy/education. Questions and answers followed.

There being no further business before the subcommittee, Representative Slagh adjourned the meeting at 10:00 AM.

Representative Bradley Slagh, Chair

Robin Risko
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