

[Public Act No. 22-101](#)

Sec. 2. Section 2 of public act 21-132 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage):

(a) There is established a task force to study the costs and benefits of establishing a Postsecondary Prison Education Program Office within the Department of Correction. Such study shall include, but need not be limited to, an examination of (1) any existing office dedicated to postsecondary prison education within the state and, if such office exists, such office's responsibilities, (2) the process and standards for approving education programs at correctional facilities, (3) the ability for virtual education programs at correctional facilities, (4) the administrative process that the department uses for students who submit complaints about the education programs, (5) the process and standards that the department uses to approve curriculum and course materials for students in correctional facilities, (6) whether the department participates in the state's education, workforce and employment longitudinal data system, (7) the space available in correctional facilities to provide prison education programming, (8) the demand for space in correctional facilities for prison education programming, and (9) the strategies utilized by other state or county correctional agencies to increase the number of individuals who will have access to prison education programs using federal Pell grant awards.

(b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

- (1) [Three] Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
- (2) [Three] Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;
- (3) [Two] One appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives;
- (4) [Two] One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;
- (5) [Two] One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;
- (6) [Two] One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;
- (7) The undersecretary for criminal justice at the Office of Policy and Management, or the undersecretary's designee; and
- (8) The Commissioner of Correction, or the commissioner's designee.

(c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly. (d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority. (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section. (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education shall serve as administrative staff of the task force. (g) Not later than January 1, [2022] 2023, the task force shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and the judiciary, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, [2022] 2023, whichever is later.