

Punishments," subtitle "Employment of Prisoners," to follow immediately after Section 645S of that Article, and to be captioned "Montgomery County," so as to provide a work release program in Montgomery County for persons convicted in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County or in the People's Court of Montgomery County.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That new Section 645T, titled "Montgomery County," be added to Article 27 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1967 Replacement Volume), title "Crimes and Punishments," subtitled "Employment of Prisoners," to follow immediately after Section 645S thereof, be and it is hereby enacted to read as follows:

*645T. Montgomery County*

(a) *Whenever a person shall be convicted of a crime and sentenced to imprisonment in any county, town or city jail or detention center within Montgomery County, by the Circuit Court for Montgomery County or the People's Court of Montgomery County, the judge imposing sentence may, AT THE TIME OF SENTENCING OR AT ANY TIME DURING THE PRESCRIBED TERM OF DETENTION, in accordance with such programs as have been or will be enacted by the County Council of Montgomery County, prescribe that the person may continue his regular employment, obtain new employment, participate in a training or rehabilitation program, or attend educational institutions in the county, while serving the term of his sentence; PROVIDED HOWEVER, THAT SUCH PRESCRIPTION SHALL IN NO EVENT LENGTHEN OR SHORTEN THE TERM OF THE SENTENCE.*

(b) *The Montgomery County Council is authorized and directed to establish a "Work Release" program under which persons sentenced to imprisonment in the County Detention Center, or other such similar institution under the jurisdiction of the County, by a judge of the Circuit Court for Montgomery County or a judge of the People's Court of Montgomery County, may be granted the privilege of leaving actual confinement during necessary and reasonable hours for the purpose of working at gainful private employment. Such program may also include, under appropriate conditions, release for the purpose of seeking such employment. Whenever the prisoner is not employed, or otherwise participating in his work release program, he shall be confined in the Detention Center unless the committing court shall direct otherwise.*

(c) *The earnings of the prisoner, less payroll deductions required by law, shall be collected by, or surrendered to, the Warden (or his authorized representative) of the County Detention Center. From such earnings, the Warden shall deduct: such amount determined to be the cost to the County of providing food, lodging and clothing for such prisoner; such actual and necessary food, travel and other expenses incidental to his participation in the program; such amount which the prisoner may be legally obligated to, or reasonably desirous of, paying for the support of his dependents; and such amount as is necessary for the repayment to the State or the County for assigned counsel, in the event the prisoner was represented by a court appointed attorney; and credit any remaining balance to the prisoner's account.*