

11-702.

(A) THERE IS A PILOT PROGRAM FOR LONG-TERM EMPLOYMENT OF EX-FELONS TO PROVIDE INCENTIVES TO BUSINESS ENTITIES TO ENCOURAGE THE LONG-TERM EMPLOYMENT OF QUALIFIED EX-FELON EMPLOYEES.

(B) (1) ON OR BEFORE ~~JANUARY~~ ~~JULY~~ JANUARY 1, 2007, THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARD, SHALL ESTABLISH A PILOT PROGRAM FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF EX-FELONS PROVIDED IN § 11-703 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(2) THE PILOT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL TERMINATE AT THE END OF ~~DECEMBER 31, 2011~~ ~~JUNE 30, 2012~~ DECEMBER 31, 2011.

(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IS TO IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM IN AT LEAST TWO AREAS OF THE STATE TO PROVIDE FIDELITY BONDS AND TO QUALIFY BUSINESS ENTITIES FOR TAX CREDITS TO ENCOURAGE THE LONG-TERM EMPLOYMENT OF QUALIFIED EX-FELON EMPLOYEES UNDER THE PILOT PROGRAM.

(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(1) PURCHASE THE NECESSARY AMOUNT OF FIDELITY BONDS TO PROVIDE BONDS TO BUSINESS ENTITIES FOR A FULL YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT FOR UP TO ~~450~~ ~~600~~ 150 QUALIFIED EX-FELONS EACH YEAR; AND

(2) PROVIDE THE FIDELITY BONDS PURCHASED EACH YEAR TO THE ONE-STOP CENTERS IN THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREAS DESIGNATED UNDER § 11-703 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(E) THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL:

(1) BE IMPLEMENTED IN ONE-STOP CENTERS IN AT LEAST TWO WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREAS OF THE STATE AS DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARD UNDER § 11-703 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND ~~AND~~

(2) PROVIDE FIDELITY BONDS TO BUSINESS ENTITIES THROUGH THE ONE-STOP CENTERS IN TWO OR MORE AREAS OF THE STATE AS DESIGNATED UNDER § 11-703 FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF UP TO ~~450~~ ~~600~~ 150 QUALIFIED EX-FELONS EACH YEAR; AND

~~(3) PROVIDE TAX CREDIT CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO BUSINESS ENTITIES UNDER THE PROGRAM THAT ARE ELIGIBLE TO CLAIM TAX CREDITS AS PROVIDED IN THIS SUBTITLE THAT MAY NOT EXCEED 600 TAX CREDIT CERTIFICATES FOR THE HIRING OF QUALIFIED EX-FELONS IN EACH CALENDAR YEAR.~~

(F) THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL REQUIRE A ONE-STOP CENTER THAT IS DESIGNATED FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PILOT PROGRAM TO:

(1) WORK WITH APPROPRIATE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENTITIES THAT PROVIDE SERVICES TO QUALIFIED EX-FELONS TO ENCOURAGE THE REFERRAL AND PARTICIPATION OF QUALIFIED EX-FELONS IN THE PROGRAM;