

**SUBJECT:** Abolishing the state boot camp program used for probationers

**COMMITTEE:** Corrections — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 4 ayes — Parker, White, Riddle, Rose  
0 nays  
3 absent — Allen, J.D. Sheffield, Toth

**SENATE VOTE:** On final passage, March 27 — 30-0, on Local and Uncontested Calendar

**WITNESSES:** No public hearing

**BACKGROUND:** Government Code, sec. 499.052 requires the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) to establish a state boot camp program for persons sentenced to the program as a part of probation.

Code of Criminal Procedure, art. 42.12, sec. 8 outlines eligibility for the program, as well as procedures that courts must follow when sentencing persons to the boot camp.

TDCJ has a 400-bed boot camp facility for males in Childress and an eight-bed female boot camp facility in Gatesville. In fiscal 2012, the Childress facility received 129 offenders and housed an average of about 30 offenders at any given time. The Gatesville facility at times housed no offenders.

**DIGEST:** SB 345 would repeal provisions in the Government Code and Code of Criminal Procedure establishing and governing the state boot camp program.

Judges would be prohibited from recommending persons for the boot camp. Persons in the program now could remain only until the court suspended execution of their sentences and reassumed custody of them or TDCJ transferred them to another agency unit.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2013.