

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R431 GWK-D

H.B. 127
By: McClendon (Armbrister)
Criminal Justice
4/19/1999
Engrossed

DIGEST

Currently, the Texas Department Criminal Justice (TDCJ) contracts with agencies and local governments to provide inmate labor to those agencies and governments. In 1997, Texas inmates performed more than 3 million hours of work on public projects. H.B. 127 would require TDCJ seeking to employ inmate labor to give priority to service projects that benefit the public.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 127 requires the department seeking to employ inmate labor to give priority to projects that benefit the public.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 497.091(b), Government Code, to require the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to give priority to the use of inmate labor while seeking contracts for service projects that benefit the public, when seeking contracts with agencies and local governments to provide inmate labor.

SECTION 2. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.