



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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JOBS FOR WORK CAMP INMATES

House Bill 4496

Sponsor: Rep. Kirk A. Profit

Committee: Corrections

Complete to 3-17-93

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4496 AS INTRODUCED 3-11-93

Work Projects. Currently, the Department of Corrections act provides that prisoners in work camps may work "on public works projects or at paid employment in the community." House Bill 4496 would amend the act to specify that these prisoners could be assigned to any of the following:

- a) Perform meaningful work at paid employment in the community.
- b) Provide labor on public works projects.
- c) Perform meaningful work on recycling projects which were operated by tax-exempt organizations and which served the public interest or a charitable purpose.

However, the bill would prohibit the use of prisoners on projects if it resulted in the displacement of workers in the community, or the replacement of workers on strike or locked out of work. In addition, a bargaining unit would have to agree to the assignment of prisoners at a place of employment that was covered by a collective bargaining agreement.

Citizens Advisory Committee. The warden at each work camp would be required to appoint a seven-member citizens advisory committee in a community in which a project was to be located to obtain public input and to review proposals on assigning prisoners to recycling projects. The committee would be broadly representative of business, community service, and religious organizations, and would include the president of the local AFL-CIO central labor council.

Legislative Report. The Department of Corrections would submit an annual report on prisoners' work projects to the House and Senate appropriations subcommittees on corrections. The report would include the number of projects, the number of prisoners placed on each, the type of work performed, and any problems raised by an advisory committee regarding a work project.

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House Bill 4496 (3-17-93)