

The Second Chance Act

House 110th – 109th Bill Comparison

The Second Chance Act of 2007 is designed to reduce recidivism, increase public safety, and help states and communities better address the growing population of prisoners returning to communities. The House bill, H.R. 1593, has been reintroduced and passed by the full Judiciary Committee. The chart below summarizes the major provisions of the bill and compares the legislation to the versions from the 108th and 109th congresses. The full text of the legislation is available online at <http://thomas.loc.gov>.

Provision	Description	110th (H.R. 1593)	109th (H.R. 1704) After mark-up with amendments	108th (H.R. 4676) Introduced
Demonstration Grants	Provides grants to states and local governments that may be used for re-entry initiatives.	\$65 million	\$40 million	\$40 million
<i>Federal Re-Entry Taskforce</i>	Creates interagency taskforce to identify existing re-entry resources, develop interagency initiatives and a national re-entry research agenda, and report recommendations to Congress.	Identical	Identical	Identical
<i>National Offender Re-Entry Resource Center</i>	Establishes a national resource center to collect and disseminate best practices and provide training and support around re-entry.	Identical	Identical	Identical
Mentoring Grants	Provides grants to nonprofit organizations to provide mentoring and other transitional services to adult and juvenile offenders reentering the community	\$15 million	\$5 million	\$15 million
State Research Grants	Provides grants to states on parole or post-incarceration supervision and revocations.	\$1 million	Not included	Not included
Re-entry Research	Authorizes the NIJ and BJS to conduct research on recidivism, children of incarcerated parents, prevalence of mental illness and other areas.	Identical	Identical	Identical
State and Local Re-Entry Courts	Authorizes the creation of State and Local Re-entry courts to monitor offenders and provide them with comprehensive re-entry services and programs.	\$10 million	Included as allowable use of state grants	Included as allowable use of state grants

Grants for re-entry task forces	Authorizes grants to create comprehensive and continuous offender reentry task forces to develop community reentry plans for each juvenile and adult offender to be released from jail or prison; and supervise and assess the progress of each offender while incarcerated, and as each offender moves through the transitional phases.	\$10 million	Not included	Not included
Drug Treatment Provisions				
Residential drug abuse program in federal prisons	amends Section 3621(e)(5)(A) to strike material and replace a course of individual and group activities and treatment lasting at least 6 months in residential treatment apart from the general population	<i>Identical provisions</i>	<i>Identical provisions</i>	<i>Identical provisions</i>
Residential substance abuse treatment for state offenders	Amends the authorizing language for the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment program to require that States provide aftercare services in order to be eligible for funding under the RSAT program.	<i>Identical provisions</i>	<i>Identical provisions</i>	<i>Identical provisions</i>
Prosecution Drug Treatment Alternative to Prison Programs	Authorizes grants to State and local prosecutors to develop and implement qualified drug treatment programs as alternatives for imprisonment, which require an eligible offender to participate in a comprehensive substance abuse treatment program.	<i>Such sums</i>	<i>Such sums</i>	Not included
Long-term substance abusers	Grants for demonstration programs to reduce drug use and recidivism for long-term substance abusers	\$5 million	Not included	Not included
Drug treatment local partnerships	Grants for demonstration programs by local partnerships to reduce illegal drug demand by providing drug treatment.	\$5 million	Not Included	Not Included
Drug treatment incentive grants	Grants to improve the availability of drug treatment to offenders in prisons, jails and juvenile facilities. To qualify, an eligible entity would have to show that during the previous fiscal year the entity doubled the number of	\$10 million	\$5 million	Not included

	offenders who actually received drug treatment from the prior fiscal year.			
Pharmacological drug treatment grants	New pharmacological treatment Study of depot naltrexone for heroin addiction	\$15 million	\$8 million	Not included
Education and Jobs				
Career training	Authorizes the Attorney General to make grants to States, local units of government and Indian tribes to provide technology career training to prisoners	\$5 million	\$5 million	Not included
Grants for educational methods at prisons, jails and juvenile facilities	Authorizes grants to evaluate and improve academic and vocational education for offenders in prison, jails and juvenile facilities, and then recommend to the Attorney General best practices for such educational programs.	\$20 million	\$8 million	Not included
Children and Families				
Prison-based family treatment programs	Authorizes grants to States, local governments, and Indian tribes to develop and implement prison-based, family-based treatment programs for incarcerated parents who have minor children.	\$10 million	\$5 million	Not included
Family substance abuse treatment alternatives to incarceration grants	Authorizes grants to States, local governments, and Indian tribes to develop and implement comprehensive family-based substance abuse treatment programs as alternatives to incarceration for non-violent parent offenders.	\$10 million	\$5 million	Not included
Children of incarcerated parents	Requires the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and human Services to study and develop best practices for communication and coordination between State criminal justice agencies and child welfare agencies to improve the safety and support of children of incarcerated parents, and to maintain the parent-child	<i>Identical provisions</i>	<i>Identical provisions</i>	<i>Identical provisions</i>

	relationship when the parent is incarcerated.			
Federal Re-Entry				
Bureau of Prisons policy on mentoring	Directs the Bureau of Prisons to modify, within 90 days of enactment of this Act, its policies to ensure continued assistance by mentors to offenders after release from prison.	<i>Identical provisions</i>	<i>Identical provisions</i>	<i>Identical provisions</i>
Improving federal offender re-entry	Requires the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to establish a comprehensive prisoner re-entry program. The program also may include incentives for prisoners to participate in the re-entry program.	\$5 million	Included – no dollar amount provided	Not included
Elderly nonviolent offender pilot	Authorizes a new pilot program to permit release of certain non-violent offenders over the age of 60 under certain conditions in order to reduce prison overcrowding and medical care expenses.	\$5 million	\$5 million	Not included
Community Corrections	Clarifies existing procedures and relaxes the maximum period for which an offender can be released into a community correctional facility, prior to release to the community, by affording the Director of the Bureau of Prisons the discretion to place an offender in a halfway house.	Discretion to place an offender in a halfway house for up to 12 months prior to the release date for the offender	Discretion to place an offender in a halfway house for up to 12 months prior to the release date for the offender	Discretion to place an offender in a halfway house for a reasonable part of the last 20 percent of the term to be served, not to exceed 6 months
Total Annual Authorization:		\$191 million	\$86 million	\$55 million

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