



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
REPORT TO THE 2015 LEGISLATURE

ACT 149 (SLH 2014)
REENTRY PILOT PROJECT FOR NONVIOLENT,
LOW RISK DRUG OFFENDERS

Department of Public Safety
Corrections Program Services
November 2014

INTRODUCTION

In 2014, the Twenty-Seventh Legislature, passed Act 149 with the purpose of establishing a two-year Reentry Pilot Project within the Department of Public Safety (PSD), to develop and implement a plan to demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of providing a coordinated system of reentry treatment and support services to help nonviolent, low-risk drug offenders transition from jail, or prison, back into the community. The legislative intent for the coordination of a systemic comprehensive continuum of treatment services include:

1. Reducing the prison population and the cost of incarceration by decreasing recidivism among nonviolent, low-risk drug offenders;
2. Identifying a network of key resources necessary for success; and,
3. Preserving public safety through careful initial screening and continued monitoring of participants in the project as they live in the community.

Act 149 requires PSD to provide oversight over the pilot project and purchase, or contract, necessary services to support the provision of community-based treatment, including residential care, out-patient care, vocational rehabilitation, sober housing, psychiatric care, medical care, family reunification, and support from faith-based organizations, cultural groups, and recovery support groups.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

PSD is unable to provide findings and recommendations as the appropriated funds have not been released by the Department of Budget and Finance.