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Date: (Filing No. H-)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 578, L.D. 931, “An Act to Expand the State’s Workforce by Supporting the Transition from Incarceration to Employment”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, Directing the Department of Corrections to Identify Ways to Improve Support for Residents of Correctional Facilities Transitioning from Incarceration to Employment'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. Evaluation of reentry support services. Resolved: That the Department of Corrections shall conduct a review of its reentry planning and support services to identify gaps that may exist between the services that are provided and the needs of residents of correctional facilities who are transitioning from incarceration to employment. In conducting this review, the department shall work with key stakeholders, including, but not limited to, community-based organizations that provide services to and advocate for persons who are or have been incarcerated, employers and organizations representing employers that are interested in hiring persons who are or have been incarcerated and other stakeholders the department considers necessary to assist in identifying how best to meet the needs of persons transitioning from incarceration to employment.

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That, based on the information collected during its review in section 1, the Department of Corrections shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice matters by January 31, 2025. The report must include the department’s findings, an evaluation of any gaps that may exist between the services the department provides and the needs of persons transitioning from incarceration to employment and the department's recommendations for how best to meet those needs. The committee may submit legislation to the 132nd Legislature in 2025 related to the department’s report.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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SUMMARY

This amendment, which is a minority report of the committee, replaces the bill, which is a concept draft, with a resolve. It requires the Department of Corrections to conduct a review of its reentry planning and support services to identify gaps that may exist between the services that are provided and the needs of residents of correctional facilities who are transitioning from incarceration to employment. The department must work with key stakeholders, including, but not limited to, community-based organizations that provide services to and advocate for persons who are or have been incarcerated and employers and organizations representing employers that are interested in hiring persons who are or have been incarcerated. The department must submit a report of the department's findings, an evaluation of any gaps that may exist between the services the department provides and the needs of persons transitioning from incarceration to employment and the department's recommendations for how best to meet those needs, by January 31, 2025, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice matters. The committee may submit legislation related to the report to the 132nd Legislature in 2025.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)