



Legislation Text

File #: Int 0492-2018, **Version:** *

Int. No. 492

By Council Members Gibson and Powers

A Local Law to require the department of correction to conduct a survey related to inmate identification

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Within 6 months of the effective date of this local law, the department of correction shall conduct a survey regarding inmate identification, or ensure that such survey is conducted. Such survey shall address, but not be limited to, the following issues regarding inmates released from departmental custody:

a. The number and percentage of inmates who possess governmental identification and the types of identification such inmates possess.

b. The number and percentage of inmates who physically possess some form of picture-based governmental identification upon their release from departmental custody, and the number and percentage of such inmates who possess such identification but do not have immediate access to such identification.

c. The number and percentage of inmates who do not possess any governmental identification and who:

1. state an interest in obtaining such identification;
2. state an interest in assistance with applying for such identification;
3. have access to the resources sufficient to obtain a New York city identification card as defined in section 3-115 of the administrative code, or would have had ability to gain access to such materials while incarcerated given the resources available to inmates during their period of incarceration;
4. received governmental benefits while in custody that can only be accessed outside custody with proper identification;
- and 5. have attempted or will be attempting to apply for governmental or private benefits that require proper identification.

d. The number and percentage of inmates who possess some form of governmental identification but do not possess any picture-based governmental identification and who: 1. state an interest in obtaining such identification; 2. state an interest in assistance with applying for such identification; 3. have access to the resources sufficient to obtain a New York city identification card as defined in section 3-115 of the administrative code, or would have had ability to gain access to such materials while incarcerated given the resources available to inmates during their period of incarceration; 4. received governmental benefits while in custody that can only be accessed outside custody with proper identification; and 5. have attempted or will be attempting to apply for governmental or private benefits that require proper identification.

e. The number and percentage of inmates with a permanent address.

§ 2. The department of correction shall provide a summary of the survey required pursuant to section one of this local law within 9 months of the effective date of this local law. Such summary shall include recommendations regarding the measures the department or service providers working within departmental facilities can take to facilitate inmate access to governmental identification, including the feasibility, projected costs, and targeted population of such measures.

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LS 3781
1/10/18