

SUBJECT: Allowing licensing authorities to accept applications from certain inmates

COMMITTEE: Corrections — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 8 ayes — Herrero, Kacal, Allen, V. Jones, R. Lopez, Sherman, Swanson, Toth

0 nays

1 absent — Murr

WITNESSES: For — Chris Willuhn, Texas Appleseed; Renee Monroe, TxCURE Inc, Charles Roberts (*Registered, but did not testify*: Lauren Johnson, ACLU of Texas; Terra Tucker, Alliance for Safety and Justice; Corinne Schnadelbach, Catholic Charities; Matthew Garcia, Dallas Regional Chamber; Hannah Haddad, Diocese of Austin; Jennifer Carter, Goodwill Central Texas; Jennifer Toon, Lioness Justice Impacted Women's Alliance; Luisa De Poo, Roman Catholic Diocese of Austin; Maggie Luna, Statewide Leadership Council; Luis Soberon, Texas 2036; Lori Henning, Texas Association of Goodwills; Charlie Malouff, Texas C.U.R.E., Inc; Stephanie Wilson, Texas Catholic Bishops; Jenny Andrews, Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops; Cody Wilson, Texas Conference of Catholic Bishops; Jennifer Fagan, Texas Construction Association; Sarah Mae Jennings, Texas Fair Defense Project; Nikki Pressley, Texas Public Policy Foundation; Ashley Ford, The Arc of Texas; Stephanie Mace, United Way of Metropolitan Dallas; Ashley Harris, United Ways of Texas; and nine individuals)

Against — None

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: April Zamora, Texas Department of Criminal Justice)

BACKGROUND: Some have suggested that inmates in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice should have access to licensure applications to help them prepare for successful reentry into society.

HB 3158
House Research Organization
page 2

DIGEST: HB 3158 would allow a licensing authority to accept an application for licensure from an inmate imprisoned in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2023.