

\*\*\*\* Bill No. \*\*\*\*

Introduced By \*\*\*\*\*

By Request of the \*\*\*\*\*

A Bill for an Act entitled: "An Act allowing the department of corrections to provide certain offenders housing assistance; expanding rulemaking authority; providing an appropriation; amending section 46-23-1002, MCA; and providing an effective date."

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Montana:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Rental vouchers.** (1) If the department does not approve an offender's parole plan because the offender is unable to secure suitable living arrangements, the department may provide rental vouchers to the offender for a period not to exceed 3 months if the rental assistance will result in an approved parole plan.

(2) The voucher must be provided in conjunction with additional transition support programming or services that enable the offender to participate in services including, but not limited to substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, sex offender treatment, educational programming, or employment programming.

**Section 2.** Section 46-23-1002 , MCA, is amended to read:

**"46-23-1002. Powers of the department.** The department may:

(1) appoint probation and parole officers and other employees

necessary to administer this part;

(2) authorize probation and parole officers to carry firearms, including concealed firearms, when necessary. The department shall adopt rules establishing firearms training requirements and procedures for authorizing the carrying of firearms.

(3) adopt rules for the conduct of persons placed on parole or probation, except that the department may not make any rule conflicting with conditions of parole imposed by the board or conditions of probation imposed by a court.

(4) adopt rules to administer the rental voucher program the department may implement pursuant to [section 1]."

{*Internal References to 46-23-1002:*

44-4-401      45-8-317      61-8-731 \* }

NEW SECTION.    **Section 3. Appropriation.** (1) There is appropriated from the state general fund to the department of corrections \$X in each year of the biennium beginning July 1, 2015.

(2) The appropriation must be used for the purpose provided in [section 1].

NEW SECTION.    **Section 4. {standard} Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 46, chapter 23, part 10, and the provisions of Title 46, chapter 23, part 10, apply to [section 1].

NEW SECTION.    **Section 5. {standard} Effective date.** [This act]

**Unofficial Draft Copy**

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is effective July 1, 2015.

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