

By Mrs. Gray of Framingham, petition of Barbara E. Gray for legislation to ensure the existence of education, training, or employment programs for female offenders when released from correctional facilities. Public Safety.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Four.

AN ACT REGULATING PROGRAMS OUTSIDE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR FEMALE INMATES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 49 of Chapter 129 of the Massachusetts
2 General Laws shall be amended by inserting after "The
3 Commissioner of Correction, subject to rules and regulations
4 established in accordance with the provisions of this section, may
5 permit an inmate who has served such a portion of his sentence
6 or sentences that he would be eligible for parole within eighteen
7 months to participate in education, training, or employment
8 programs established under section forty-eight outside a
9 correctional facility" the following: — and shall insure that there
10 exists at all times programs outside correctional facilities available
11 to each female offender who is within eighteen months of parole
12 and eligible for such programs. The Commissioner shall ensure
13 that such programs provide training which is practical and
14 realistic to an inmate's ability to obtain marketable skills for
15 securing meaningful employment upon being paroled.

1 SECTION 2. Section 49 of Chapter 127 of the Massachusetts
2 General Laws is hereby further amended by inserting at the end
3 of paragraph two the following: —
4 In order to facilitate the reintegration of committed female

5 offenders, the Commissioner of the Department of Corrections
6 shall insofar as practical ensure that such programs, including pre-
7 release centers, are established in the home communities of
8 inmates eligible for such programs.