S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

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I N A S S E M B L Y

March 29, 2012

Introduced by M. of A. BARRON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Correction

AN ACT to amend the correction law, in relation to permitting persons with a criminal record to volunteer and provide counseling and programming services within the prison system in certain circumstances

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The correction law is amended by adding a new section 624 to read as follows:

S 624. VOLUNTEERS FOR PRISON COUNSELING AND PROGRAMMING; ELIGIBILITY. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW TO THE CONTRARY, A PERSON WITH A CRIMINAL RECORD WHO HAS DEMONSTRATED A STEADFAST COMMITMENT TO HIS OR HER COMMUNITY AND WHO HAS HAD NO FURTHER INVOLVEMENT OF A CRIMINAL NATURE SINCE HIS OR HER LAST CONVICTION FOR TWENTY YEARS OR LONGER, SHALL BE PERMITTED TO VOLUNTEER AND PROVIDE COUNSELING AND PROGRAMMING SERVICES TO PRISONERS IF SUCH PERSON MEETS ALL OTHER CRITERIA SET FORTH BY THE COMMISSIONER.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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