

HB 407 -- Offender Treatment Programs

Co-Sponsors: Smith (118), Hampton, Ward, Black, Bearden

This bill adds alcohol treatment programs to the long-term substance abuse treatment programs to which offenders may be sentenced in lieu of incarceration. The term of sentences for offenders admitted in these programs will be at least 12 months and no more than 24 months.

The bill further requires prior notification by the Division of Probation and Parole to the sentencing court of an offender's completion of a substance abuse program. At that point, the court will determine whether the offender should be placed on probation or have his or her sentence executed.

The bill also allows courts to place offenders with the Department of Corrections in the department's 120-day program. When the department has determined that an offender has successfully completed a program, the offender will be released on probation.

If the department determines that an offender is not successful in the 120-day program, the department will notify the sentencing court, and the court must determine the future of the offender. In the case of sex offenders, only the court may make the determination regarding probation. The court is authorized to request information and recommendations from the department regarding the potential of sex offenders to reoffend when determining probation.

The participation and completion of a 120-day program will not be considered time served in determining the length of an offender's sentence.