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DOROTHY NASH HOLMES:

**Sections 1-4, 6-15, 22-25, 34-40:**

Legislation (SB 519) was passed in 2001 to authorize **re-entry programs** to assist offenders returning to their communities. It's in NRS 209.4871 *et seq.* (NDOC referrals) and NRS 213.600 *et seq.* (Parole referrals). This bill provides language clarifying that there can be both judicially-established re-entry programs and those established by the Department of Corrections. (These changes are in italics throughout the bill.)

- our proposed amendments to **Sections 3-4** (underlined and strike-throughs) clarify the difference between current prisoner participants and parolee participants
- clarify that Director refers candidates to Parole Bd and P&P but does not decide who gets into re-entry programs, Parole Bd does.

**Section 5** broadens the "**compassionate release**" provisions (NRS 209.3925) to allow for release of offenders who are seriously ill, or those offenders who are pregnant upon imprisonment. Now we can only release offenders who are physically incapacitated (ie, bedridden) or they will die within 12 months. NDOC has some terminally ill inmates who are definitely dying, but they can still walk around and may not die exactly within 12 months. We want to be able to release them to their homes to be cared for by family, or to hospices or extended care facilities, and supervised by the Division of Parole and Probation according to the method they deem best. Dangerous inmates cannot be released; that does not change.

**Sections 16-21, 26-33:**

"**work release.**" Statutes were enacted in 1977 (NRS 213.300 *et seq.*) to allow offenders with six months or less remaining on their sentences to work in their home communities and sleep in local jails at night. "Work release" has not been used in many years due to overcrowded jails. This legislation updates the statute to make it useable by:

- allows the Director of Corrections to use "work release" (the old statute required it) ;
- takes out all parts about "quartering inmates in local facilities"
- takes out parts about residential confinement ( per P&P and Parole Bd)
- takes our parts about NDOC contracting with non-profits and other organizations to provide housing for "work release" offenders
- leaves the details of the releases to be decided by Parole Bd after referral of cases by NDOC.