

creases the likelihood that such individuals will be successful when released. And removing barriers to successful reentry helps formerly incarcerated individuals compete for jobs, attain stable housing, and support their families. All of these are critical to reducing recidivism and strengthening communities.

In 2011, the Attorney General formed the Federal Interagency Reentry Council, a Cabinet-level working group dedicated to the rehabilitation and reintegration of individuals returning to their communities from prisons and jails. I am issuing this memorandum to ensure that the Federal Government continues the important work of this council and builds on its successes.

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, I hereby direct the following:

**SECTION 1. *Establishing the Federal Interagency Reentry Council.*** (a) There is hereby established the Federal Interagency Reentry Council (Reentry Council), to be co-chaired by the Attorney General and the Director of the White House Domestic Policy Council. In addition to the Co-Chairs, the Reentry Council shall include the heads of:

- (i) the Department of the Treasury;
- (ii) the Department of the Interior;
- (iii) the Department of Agriculture;
- (iv) the Department of Commerce;
- (v) the Department of Labor;
- (vi) the Department of Health and Human Services;
- (vii) the Department of Housing and Urban Development;
- (viii) the Department of Transportation;
- (ix) the Department of Energy;
- (x) the Department of Education;
- (xi) the Department of Veterans Affairs;
- (xii) the Department of Homeland Security;
- (xiii) the Small Business Administration;
- (xiv) the Office of Management and Budget;
- (xv) the Council of Economic Advisers;
- (xvi) the Office of National Drug Control Policy;
- (xvii) the Office of Personnel Management;
- (xviii) the Corporation for National and Community Service; and
- (xix) such other executive departments, agencies, and offices as the Co-Chairs may designate.

(b) The Co-Chairs may also invite representatives of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Federal Communications Commission, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Trade Commission, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Social Security Administration to participate in the activities of the Reentry Council to the extent that such activities are relevant to their respective statutory authorities and legal obligations.

(c) As appropriate, the Co-Chairs may invite relevant representatives of the judicial branch, including representatives of the United States Probation and Pretrial Services System and Federal Public Defender Organizations, to attend and participate in meetings of the Reentry Council.

(d) The Reentry Council shall work across executive departments, agencies, and offices (agencies) to:

- (i) within 100 days of the date of this memorandum, develop and present a Federal strategic plan to make communities safer by reducing recidivism and victimization; assist individuals who return from prison or jail to become productive citizens; and save taxpayer dollars by lowering the direct and collateral costs of incarceration;
- (ii) identify, implement, and promote evidence-based research, policies, strategies, and programming to support successful reentry and reintegration, including improved access to criminal justice data for research and evaluation purposes;
- (iii) promote regional partnerships among Federal agencies and with State, tribal, and local governments and organizations to advance local reentry and reintegration efforts;

(iv) identify ways to improve the accuracy of records of arrest, criminal adjudication, or conviction (criminal records); and

(v) identify and address unwarranted barriers to successful reentry.

(e) The Reentry Council shall engage with Federal, State, local, and tribal officials, including corrections officials, as necessary to carry out its objectives. The Reentry Council shall engage with nongovernmental organizations, including those representing or composed of formerly incarcerated individuals, exonerees, victims, and criminal justice agencies, to ensure that these stakeholders have the opportunity to offer recommendations and information to the Reentry Council.

(f) The Attorney General shall designate an Executive Director, who is a full-time officer or employee of the Federal Government, to coordinate the day-to-day functions of the Reentry Council.

(g) The Co-Chairs shall convene a meeting of the Reentry Council at least once per year.

**SEC. 2. *Reducing Barriers to Employment.*** (a) Agencies making suitability determinations for Federal employment shall review their procedures for evaluating an applicant's criminal records to ensure compliance with 5 CFR part 731 and any related, binding guidance issued by the Office of Personnel Management, with the aim of evaluating each individual's character and conduct.

(b) Consistent with applicable law and the need to protect public safety, agencies with statutory authority to grant or deny occupational licenses and the discretion to define the criteria by which such licensing decisions are made shall undertake to revise their procedures to provide that such licenses are not denied presumptively by reason of an applicant's criminal record in the absence of a specific determination that denial of the license is warranted in light of all relevant facts and circumstances known to the agency, including:

- (i) the nature and seriousness of the conduct resulting in the criminal record, including the circumstances surrounding the conduct and contributing societal conditions and the age of the individual at the time of the conduct;
- (ii) the time that has passed since the individual's arrest, adjudication, or conviction, or the completion of the individual's sentence, and the absence or presence of rehabilitation efforts; and
- (iii) the nature of the occupation requiring a license, including whether the criminal record is directly related to the occupation, whether the occupation offers the opportunity for the same or a similar offense to occur, and whether circumstances leading to the conviction will recur in the occupation.

(c) Independent agencies are encouraged to comply with the requirements of this section.

**SEC. 3. *General Provisions.*** (a) Nothing in this memorandum shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

- (i) the authority granted by law to an executive department, agency, entity, office, or the head thereof; or
- (ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This memorandum shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This memorandum is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

**SEC. 4. *Publication.*** The Attorney General is hereby authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the Federal Register.

BARACK OBAMA.

## § 17502. Definition of Indian Tribe

In this Act, the term "Indian Tribe" has the meaning given that term in section 3791 of this title.

(Pub. L. 110-199, § 4, Apr. 9, 2008, 122 Stat. 660.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This Act, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 110-199, Apr. 9, 2008, 122 Stat. 657, known as the Second Chance Act of 2007: Community Safety Through Recidivism Prevention and also as the Second Chance Act of 2007, which enacted this chapter and sections 3797q to 3797q-6, 3797s to 3797s-6, 3797w-2, 3797dd, and 3797dd-1 of this title, amended sections 3793, 3796ff-1, 3796ff-3, 3797u-2, 3797w, 13702, 13708, and 15606 of this title and sections 3621, 3624, 3672, and 4042 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure, and enacted provisions set out as notes under sections 3797u-1, 3797u-2, and 17501 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 17501 of this title and Tables.

**§ 17503. Submission of reports to Congress**

Not later than January 31 of each year, the Attorney General shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives each report required by the Attorney General under this Act or an amendment made by this Act during the preceding year.

(Pub. L. 110-199, § 5, Apr. 9, 2008, 122 Stat. 660.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This Act, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 110-199, Apr. 9, 2008, 122 Stat. 657, known as the Second Chance Act of 2007: Community Safety Through Recidivism Prevention and also as the Second Chance Act of 2007, which enacted this chapter and sections 3797q to 3797q-6, 3797s to 3797s-6, 3797w-2, 3797dd, and 3797dd-1 of this title, amended sections 3793, 3796ff-1, 3796ff-3, 3797u-2, 3797w, 13702, 13708, and 15606 of this title and sections 3621, 3624, 3672, and 4042 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure, and enacted provisions set out as notes under sections 3797u-1, 3797u-2, and 17501 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 17501 of this title and Tables.

**§ 17504. Rule of construction**

Nothing in this Act or an amendment made by this Act shall be construed as creating a right or entitlement to assistance or services for any individual, program, or grant recipient. Each grant made under this Act or an amendment made by this Act shall—

(1) be made as competitive grants<sup>1</sup> to eligible entities for a 12-month period, except that grants awarded under section 113<sup>2</sup>, section 17521 of this title, section 17531 of this title, and section 17532 of this title may be made for a 24-month period; and

(2) require that services for participants, when necessary and appropriate, be transferred from programs funded under this Act or the amendment made by this Act, respectively, to State and community-based programs not funded under this Act or the amendment made by this Act, respectively, before the expiration of the grant.

(Pub. L. 110-199, § 6, Apr. 9, 2008, 122 Stat. 660.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This Act, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 110-199, Apr. 9, 2008, 122 Stat. 657, known as the Second Chance Act

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be “a competitive grant”.

<sup>2</sup> See References in Text note below.

of 2007: Community Safety Through Recidivism Prevention and also as the Second Chance Act of 2007, which enacted this chapter and sections 3797q to 3797q-6, 3797s to 3797s-6, 3797w-2, 3797dd, and 3797dd-1 of this title, amended sections 3793, 3796ff-1, 3796ff-3, 3797u-2, 3797w, 13702, 13708, and 15606 of this title and sections 3621, 3624, 3672, and 4042 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure, and enacted provisions set out as notes under sections 3797u-1, 3797u-2, and 17501 of this title.

Section 113, referred to in par. (1), means section 113 of Pub. L. 110-199, which enacted sections 3797u-1, 3797u-2, and 17501 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 17501 of this title and Tables.

SUBCHAPTER I—NEW AND INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE OFFENDER REENTRY SERVICES

**§ 17511. Technology careers training demonstration grants**

**(a) Authority to make grants**

From amounts made available to carry out this section, the Attorney General shall make grants to States, units of local government, territories, and Indian Tribes to provide technology career training to prisoners.

**(b) Use of funds**

Grants awarded under subsection (a) may be used for establishing a technology careers training program to train prisoners for technology-based jobs and careers during the 3-year period before release from prison, jail, or a juvenile facility.

**(c) Control of Internet access**

An entity that receives a grant under subsection (a) shall restrict access to the Internet by prisoners, as appropriate, to ensure public safety.

**(d) Reports**

Not later than the last day of each fiscal year, an entity that receives a grant under subsection (a) during the preceding fiscal year shall submit to the Attorney General a report that describes and assesses the uses of such grant during the preceding fiscal year.

**(e) Authorization of appropriations**

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

(Pub. L. 110-199, title I, § 115, Apr. 9, 2008, 122 Stat. 677.)

SUBCHAPTER II—ENHANCED DRUG TREATMENT AND MENTORING GRANT PROGRAMS

PART A—DRUG TREATMENT

**§ 17521. Offender reentry substance abuse and criminal justice collaboration program**

**(a) Grant program authorized**

The Attorney General may make competitive grants to States, units of local government, territories, and Indian Tribes, in accordance with this section, for the purposes of—

(1) improving the provision of drug treatment to offenders in prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities; and