

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to treatment of inmates; creating s.
 3 944.092, F.S.; specifying certain rights of inmates in
 4 the correctional system; requiring a written copy of
 5 the rights to be provided to each inmate; authorizing
 6 relief for deprivation of rights; amending s. 947.149,
 7 F.S.; revising the definition of the term "permanently
 8 incapacitated inmate" for purposes of conditional
 9 medical release; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 944.092, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

944.092 Basic rights of inmates.-

(1) RIGHTS.-Each inmate in the correctional system has the right to:

(a) Proper ventilation.-All housing units must have air conditioning systems or air cooling systems; however, housing units in use on or before July 1, 2024, which cannot be fitted for air conditioning or air cooling systems shall receive exhaust and air circulators sufficient to provide a safe and healthful environment for inmates.

(b) Sufficient meal time.-Inmates must receive a minimum of 20 minutes to eat each meal. The minimum time shall be

26 extended to the amount necessary for an inmate to complete the
 27 meal if the inmate receives an approved medical reason for an
 28 extension.

29 (c) Adequate food supply in case of emergency.—Each
 30 correctional institution shall establish a program with one or
 31 more community food banks located near the institution to ensure
 32 adequate food supply is made available to the inmate population
 33 if conditions exist that prevent regular food supply services
 34 due to an event such as a natural disaster or other emergency.

35 (d) Necessary health supplies.—The department must
 36 provide:

37 1. Necessary personal protective equipment for medical
 38 staff at all times and for all staff and inmates during health
 39 crises or during any cleaning.

40 2. Necessary health products for inmates including, but
 41 not limited to, sanitary napkins, tampons, soap, and toothpaste,
 42 upon request of inmates.

43 (2) NOTICE.—The department shall provide a written copy of
 44 the rights established in this section to each inmate upon his
 45 or her entry in to the correctional system.

46 (3) GRIEVANCES.—An inmate may file a grievance with the
 47 department if the inmate believes a right guaranteed in this
 48 section is denied by a correctional institution.

49 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
 50 947.149, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

51 947.149 Conditional medical release.—

52 (1) The commission shall, in conjunction with the
53 department, establish the conditional medical release program.
54 An inmate is eligible for consideration for release under the
55 conditional medical release program when the inmate, because of
56 an existing medical or physical condition, is determined by the
57 department to be within one of the following designations:

58 (a) "Permanently incapacitated inmate," which means an
59 inmate who has a condition caused by injury, disease, or illness
60 which, to a reasonable degree of medical certainty, renders the
61 inmate permanently and irreversibly physically incapacitated; or
62 has a physical disability, impairment, or handicap to the extent
63 that the inmate does not constitute a danger to herself or
64 himself or others.

65 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.