

1 HB347
2 135753-2
3 By Representative Newton (C)
4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security
5 First Read: 16-FEB-12

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, the sheriff of a county
9 may operate a work release program for inmates in
10 the county jail. Twenty-five percent of an inmate's
11 gross wages is applied to the costs incident to the
12 inmate's confinement.

13 This bill would increase the percentage that
14 may be withheld from an inmate's earnings up to 40
15 percent and would specify that the funds may be
16 applied to the operation of the sheriff's office.

17
18 A BILL
19 TO BE ENTITLED
20 AN ACT
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22 To amend Section 14-8-37 of the Code of Alabama
23 1975, relating to the operation of a work release program by
24 the sheriff for inmates in the county jail; to further provide
25 for the percentage of the inmate's gross wages that may be
26 withheld and to specify that the funds may be used generally
27 for the operation of the sheriff's office.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

2 Section 1. Section 14-8-37 of the Code of Alabama
3 1975, is amended to read as follows:

4 "§14-8-37.

5 "The employer of an inmate involved in work release
6 pursuant to this article shall send the inmate's wages
7 directly to the county or its designated agent. Of each
8 inmate's earnings, ~~25~~ up to 40 percent of ~~his~~ the gross wages
9 of an inmate as determined by the sheriff shall be applied to
10 ~~the costs incident to the inmate's confinement~~ operation of
11 the sheriff's office. If the cost of confinement of a state
12 inmate as agreed upon in the maintenance contract authorized
13 in Section 14-8-31 exceeds 25 percent of ~~his~~ the inmate's
14 gross wages, the ~~board~~ Department of Corrections shall pay the
15 difference to the county. The remainder of the inmate's wages
16 shall be credited to his or her account with the county and
17 shall be paid out as the inmate requests to furnish ~~his~~
18 clothing, medical and dental care, spending money, savings, or
19 dependent support."

20 Section 2. This act shall become effective
21 immediately following its passage and approval by the
22 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.