



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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JAILS; "GOOD TIME"

House Bill 4178

Sponsor: Rep. Allen Lowe

Committee: Judiciary and Civil Rights

Complete to 4-24-95

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4178 AS INTRODUCED 1-17-95

The bill would amend current law requiring prisoners in county jails be given a reduction of their sentence for good behavior, by increasing the amount of time a sentence would be reduced for participation in community service programs at the discretion of the sheriff or the sentencing judge.

House Bill 4178 would amend Public Act 210 of 1945 (MCL 51.282). The bill would allow a prisoner to receive an additional reduction of his or her sentence for participating in community service programs or serving as a trustee in the jail. The actual amount of reduction would be determined county by county, in accordance with a countywide ratio established annually by the county sheriff. The minimum and maximum parameters would be, respectively, one day of credit for every two days of service, and two days of credit for every one day of service.

Any grant of additional "good time" credit under the bill would have to be approved by both the sheriff and the sentencing judge (or his or her successor) and would also require a finding by both the sheriff and the sentencing judge (or his or her successor) that the prisoner had not shown a pattern of violent behavior.

The new credits allowed by the bill would also be subject to current language allowing such "good time" credit to be taken away by the sheriff for violations of the jail rules and regulations. The sheriff would also be allowed to restore any portion of the prisoner's accumulated "good time" credit as a reward for especially good conduct.

House Bill 4178 (4-24-95)