

HB 1927 -- Compensation for Wrongful Imprisonment

Sponsor: Low

This bill allows a person who was wrongfully convicted and imprisoned and who meets the specified eligibility requirements to apply for compensation to the Attorney General's Office and the Committee on Compensation for Wrongful Conviction. A state caseworker will arrange for emergency assistance for 30 days upon release from a correctional institution. Within 30 days of release, the caseworker must complete an assessment of loss and needs and a community integration plan. Any award of compensation by the committee to the released person may be appealed to the Victim's Compensation Board within the Department of Corrections. Compensation, which cannot be capped, includes reasonable and necessary expenses needed to integrate the person back into society and reasonable attorney fees. Eligibility for compensation is prohibited for wrongful imprisonment of crimes when the imprisonment was served concurrently with a sentence for the conviction of another crime.