
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair

2025 - 2026 Regular Session

SB 1012 (Smallwood-Cuevas) - Employment of inmates

Version: April 15, 2026

Policy Vote: PUB. S. 6 - 0, L., P.E. & R. 5
- 0

Urgency: No

Mandate: No

Hearing Date: May 14, 2026

Consultant: Bob Franzoia

Bill Summary: SB 1012 would (1) require the Pre-Release Construction Trades Certificate Program's joint advisory committee, in consultation with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire), the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR), and the fire camp program, to facilitate the post-release admission of program graduates into any relevant state-approved apprenticeship and require state-approved apprenticeship programs to evaluate these individuals for admission with advanced standing, (2) require that successful completion of the fire camp program constitutes a qualifying experience for a state-approved apprenticeship, and (3) require CDCR, in partnership with Cal Fire and the fire camp program, to ensure that all individuals who complete the fire camp program receive a certification acknowledging their fire camp training and work experience to ensure eligibility for state-approved apprenticeship programs.

***** **ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE** *****

**The following information is revised to reflect amendments
adopted by the committee on May 14, 2026**

Fiscal Impact: CDCR would incur significant annual costs for additional workload associated with program development and expansion, interdepartmental coordination and the validation and tracking of training skills and competencies.

CalFire and DIR would likely incur minor costs to participate with the joint advisory committee to facilitate the admission of graduates of the program into apprenticeship programs.

Author Amendments: Amend to clarify provisions of the bill only apply to incarcerated persons who successfully served as fire crew members in the Conservation Camp program.

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