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State of Nevada Assembly

Eighty-Second Session

MEMO

DATE: July 24, 2024
TO: Interim Finance Committee
Fiscal Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau
FROM: Brittney Miller, Chair, Joint Interim Standing Committee on the Judiciary
SUBJECT: Joint Interim Standing Committee on the Judiciary Duties related to Industrial Programs

BACKGROUND

[Assembly Bill 443](#) (2021) created the Joint Interim Standing Committee on the Judiciary. The bill also repealed the Committee on Industrial Programs and assigned its duties to the Interim Judiciary Committee.

Nevada Revised Statutes [209.4818](#) requires the Interim Judiciary Committee to report to the Interim Finance Committee the status of current and proposed industrial programs for correctional institutions.

Silver State Industries (SSI) is a self-supporting industrial training and production program operating within the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC). The program provides meaningful work, job training/skills and certifications for offenders in the production of goods and services. According to the NDOC:

During the period State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2019 to SFY 2023, approximately 560 offenders worked in Prison Industries programs at any given time, accruing over three million hours and \$7.3 million in wages. Upon release, these offenders are routinely placed in quality professions. Silver State Industries has operations at Northern Nevada Correctional Center, Southern Desert Correctional Center, Lovelock Correctional Center, and High Desert State Prison. The shops mimic the structure of the outside world and include Print/Bindery, Furniture, Metal and Paint, Mattress, Ranch, Garment/Draperies, and Auto/Upholstery.

INDUSTRIAL PROGRAMS

The Committee reviewed the programs of SSI at two meetings during the interim.

February 23, 2024, meeting

At this meeting, SSI provided an overview of its work programs and reviewed the five-year report as required by NRS 209.461. William Quenga, Deputy Director, SSI, Public Information Officer, NDOC reviewed current contract industries, which includes the following:

- Dayton Valley Turf;
- Erickson Framing NV LLC;
- Game Farm, LLC; and
- Nevada Organics, LLC.

Mr. Quenga alerted the Committee that the following Contract Industries were under consideration: Sustainable Reform Solutions, Advanced Chemicals, and Carson Truss, LLC. The SSI program overview of these two industries can be found [here](#).

The Committee was also presented with the [SSI Five-Year Report](#), which provides an analysis of existing contracts with private employers for the employment of offenders and the potential impact of those contracts on private industry in Nevada.

MAY 31, 2024, MEETING

At the May meeting, the Committee further reviewed and then approved two industries to be included in the industrial programs portfolio of SSI. These industries are:

- Sustainable Reform Solutions (SRS)—This company collects empty printer cartridges from qualified customers. These are remanufactured in a prison and sold back to qualified customers.
- Carson Truss LLC—This company manufactures engineered wooden trusses.

Reports on these industries can be found [here](#).