

H.R.13

PROHIBIT PRIVATE PRISONS ACT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. KENDRICK introduced the following bill;

A BILL

To prohibit private entities from running Federal correctional institutions.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE

This Act may be cited as the “Prohibit Private Prisons Act”.

SECTION 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

(a) Findings

Congress finds the following:

- (1) Private prison corporations impede inmate rehabilitation, crime reduction, and decreased recidivism as they have economic incentives to maintain high incarceration rates.
- (2) Private prison corporations ignore the concerns of voters since the construction of facilities with private financing does not require voter approval.
- (3) Private prison corporations protect their financial interests by reducing operating costs in staffing and training programs. Since an adequate and well-trained staff is fundamental to ensure order in a prison environment, cost-cutting measures in staff employment and training by private prison corporations jeopardizes the safety of inmates, employees, and the surrounding community.

(b) Purpose

It is the purpose of this Act to prohibit private entities from running Federal correctional institutions.

SECTION 3. PROHIBITION

Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act

- (1) All correctional facilities used by the Bureau of Prisons for the confinement of persons serving sentences of imprisonment for Federal offenses shall be under the direct, operational control of the Federal Government.
- (2) All core correctional services at each correctional facility which is used by the Bureau of Prisons for the confinement of persons serving sentences of imprisonment for Federal offenses shall be performed by employees of the Federal Government.
- (3) All correctional facilities used by the United States Marshals Service for the confinement of persons serving sentences of imprisonment for Federal offenses shall be under the direct, operational control of the Federal Government.
- (4) All core correctional services at each correctional facility which is used by the United States Marshals Service for the confinement of persons in the custody of the United States Marshals Service shall be performed by employees of the Federal Government.

(5) The Director of the Bureau of Prisons shall not enter into or maintain any contract with privately operated criminal detention facilities.

(6) The Director of the Bureau of Prisons may not enter into or maintain any contract with any for-profit entity to provide or manage any community confinement facility.

(7) The Attorney General shall not enter into or maintain any contract with privately operated criminal detention facilities.

(8) Electronic monitoring of the location of a person released from the custody of the Federal Government may be conducted only by a public entity under the supervision and control of the Federal Government.

(9) All detention facilities used by the Department of Homeland Security to hold individuals under the custody of the Department of Homeland Security shall be under the direct, operational control of the Federal Government.

(10) The Secretary of Homeland Security shall not enter into or maintain any contract with privately operated detention facilities.

(11) The term “core correctional services” means the housing, transporting, safeguarding, protecting, and disciplining of individuals charged with or convicted of an offense or who are in custody for purposes of enforcing the immigration laws.

SECTION 4. ENACTMENT

The provisions of this Act shall go into effect immediately upon passage.