

Out of State Selection					
Public Comments					
3/30/2016					
COMMENT SHEET					
Comment #:	Document:	Page #:	Line #:	Comment:	Response:
<i>Mark Potanas</i>					
1	Facility Holds	1	23-24	This seems to be an unnecessary step. If you trust a Superintendent to run a facility with a multi-million \$ budget and the life & death responsibility of inmates and staff, why not let them decide on a worker?	Thank you for your feedback, this is a conscious shift in Department policy.
2	Facility Holds	1	29-30	<p>I have a number of specialty inmate jobs: Hospice Worker; Tailor; Equipment repair.</p> <p>This restriction is unmanageable.</p> <p>We trained 10 inmates as Hospice workers, only two managed to be able/willing to do the work and one of those has maxed out. This is an unusual job that deals with dying inmates through their death.</p> <p>Tailor: This is trainable but there are trust factors and skill levels involved. Having a tailor that brought those skills with him has saved countless dollars in uniforms. We are able to repair many of these as opposed to discarding them.</p> <p>Equipment repair: We have an inmate that saves the DOC and the taxpayers upwards of \$100,000.00 annually. He repairs washers, dryers, tvs, kitchen equipment, lawn and garden equipment and on and on. I cannot replace him. Once he leaves we will be spending this money. He has been doing this work for about 7 years now. Per this directive, I must ship him OOS.</p> <p>This also seems to me that we are punishing rather than rewarding proper pro-social behaviors.</p>	Thank you for your feedback, this is a conscious shift in Department policy.
<i>Mary Jane Ainsworth</i>					
1	Criteria Explanation			Based Classification for when this goes effective. Shouldn't this document be reworked for that? I can edit it as I build the tool into the system.	Yes, please do so.
2	VCI Hold Process	1	23-27	Same feedback as PDT that I didn't receive a response to: "Is the form going in OMS? If so, notifications could be built around this for review. Because this is a reference document, shouldn't it specifically state where in OMS this will be entered?"	Eventually the hope that this would go in OMS, but for now it remain a word document form.

3	VCI Hold Process	1	26-27	Is there a reason why it's not specified where this information will be placed in OMS?	This should be entered into OMS, and should be part of the technical document.
4	VCI Hold Process	1	29-31	Would it make more sense to have a date associated with the hold in OMS and have a notification built to automate the process?	Yes, please do so.
5	VCI Hold Process	1	35	Is there a reason why it's not specified where this information will be placed in OMS?	This should be entered into OMS, and should be part of the technical document.
6	VCI Hold Process	2	39	Is there a reason why it's not specified where this information will be placed in OMS?	This should be entered into OMS, and should be part of the technical document.
7	Facility Worker Hold	1	23-27	Is the form going in OMS? If so, notifications could be built around this for review. Because this is a reference document, shouldn't it specifically state where in OMS this will be entered?	Eventually the hope that this would go in OMS, but for now it remain a word document form.
8	Facility Worker Hold	1	29-31	Would it make more sense to have a date associated with the hold in OMS and have a notification built to automate the process?	Yes, please do so.
9	Facility Worker Hold	1	35	Where in OMS? Should be specified.	This should be entered into OMS, and should be part of the technical document.
10	Facility Worker Hold	1	39	Where in OMS? Should be specified.	This should be entered into OMS, and should be part of the technical document.
11	General Comment			Would you want a report built of all inmates with OOS holds?	Yes it would be great to have.
12	General Comment			What kind of reports based off of the OOS Criteria are going to need to be built? There has been discussion but not specifics.	Will have followup meeting to discuss.
13	Facility Worker Hold	1	35	Where in OMS? Should be specified.	This should be entered into OMS, and should be part of the technical document.
14	Facility Worker Hold	1	39	Where in OMS? Should be specified.	This should be entered into OMS, and should be part of the technical document.

15	General			Would you want a report built of all inmates with OOS holds?	Yes.
16	General Comment			What kind of reports based off of the OOS Criteria are going to need to be built? There has been discussion but not specifics.	This will be a followup discussion.
<i>Caroline Marsh</i>					
1	Facility Worker Hold	1	24-25	I was told by Director Touchette that it was not necessary for him to approve the worker holds. He said that the Superintendents were quite capable to do so. I don't believe that has changed. This puts the decision in the hands of the Superintendent who knows the inmate, instead of someone at Central Office who may never have heard of him. Also, if the Central Office reviewer needs input from the facility, we have just put an additional burden on the facility. This is not cost effective. The Superintendent is quite capable of making this decision as they all currently do it now.	Thank you for your feedback, this is a conscious shift in Department policy.
2	Facility Worker Hold	1	30-31	I am also concerned about the message we're sending. According to this directive, if an inmate does everything right as in he follows his case plan, doesn't pick up DRs, and is good at his work; at the three year mark we are firing him because he can't have a hold for more than three years. I think it might be wiser to have a yearly review by the Superintendent or designee instead of a three year limit. Quite frankly, as it is, if an inmate isn't following his case plan, picks up a DR or is not performing up to his supervisor's needs, he is fired, and if eligible, he is sent OOS as soon as possible.	Thank you for your feedback, this is a conscious shift in Department policy.
3	Facility Worker Hold	1		Regarding the three year limit, certain positions are difficult to fill and cannot be done just by any inmate. As an example, we currently only have one hospice worker. To be a hospice worker, an inmate must attend special training. I prefer to have three hospice workers, but they are hard to come by. Not every inmate wants to work with dying inmates. If my hospice worker had been performing the job for three years, based on this directive, the inmate should be fired. In other prison systems throughout the country, inmates are allowed to hold jobs for their entire sentence if they have shown they have specialized skill or have received specified training and do the job well. If you do not wish to change the three year limit, I would recommend that you add a line that says there can be exceptions which must be approved by the Superintendent.	Thank you for your feedback, this is a conscious shift in Department policy.
<i>Dustin Horne</i>					

				When can we expect this to go in effect? Also is there any determination on what is the standard requirement for IM being shipped that are considered to have long term sentences? Also is the 27 Holds for VCI here in NSCF or state wide?	This will go into effect within the next couple months. The criteria form provides details on exactly how inmates are prioritized for OOS placement. The 27 holds for VCI are statewide.
1	General				
<i>Shawn Baraw</i>					
					Yes, any legal proceedings where there is a known requirement that the inmate must be present in-person and cannot participate via phone will make the inmate a temporarily ineligible candidate. That being said, civil litigation does not typically require an in-person presence and it would be presumed that they could participate remotely unless explicitly stated by the court that they must be present.
1	Directive	2	15	will pending civil litigation be considered when reviewing pending court dates?	
2	Directive	3	4	recommend replacing “of inmate workers” with “of an inmate workforce”	Completed.
3	Guide			recommend “ upon entry” be changed to “Upon being sentenced ...”	Completed.
4	Guide			involves adding a new form to OMS as an attached excel spreadsheet. What happened to not adding new tasks in OMS without having the form being a functional component of OMS. How will the spreadsheet be attached?	This will be incorporated into OMS.
5	Request for Hold Process	1	6	change criminogenic need to criminogenic needs	Completed.
<i>Gerry Schartner</i>					

1	VCI Hold Process	1	31	needs to be changed on the VCI hold process policy or at least an exception to this statement "No inmate may have a hold for more than three years within the same sentence. "	The term limit reflects reflects the policy shift of prioritizing beds in Vermont for inmates actively engaging in risk and needs reducing services; as well as promotes rotation and job development among more of the population.
2	VCI Hold Process	1		With all the mandates set for VCI this would hurt the program financially which in turns hurts the program participation numbers and workforce development efforts overall. I have met and spoken to Kim, Matt and Dominic on this subject. I hope they will add to my statement.	Thank you for your feedback, this is a conscious shift in Department policy.
3	VCI Hold Process	1		We need to grandfather the current VCI hold list and raise the number from 3 to 5 years. I'll let Matt explain the financial piece and Kim more on the workforce development program.	The term limit reflects reflects the policy shift of prioritizing beds in Vermont for inmates actively engaging in risk and needs reducing services; as well as promotes rotation and job development among more of the population.
<i>Don Shaw</i>					
1	Active Parent	1		I did not see any mention of being current with any court ordered child support prior to incarceratin. This should be part of any good active parenting designation.	There is a difference between rights and responsibilities. Child support enforcement will be left to DCF/Courts but is a separate issue from the parent-child contact.
<i>End.</i>					