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DATE: June 10, 2009
TO: Tophie Nowak, Chairperson
FROM: Esther Torres, Warden *ET*
SUBJECT: Community Projects

The Community Detail is preparing for the Enfield 4th of July event. They will assist with the set up and take down of the main stage, booths for the event and also rolling a limited amount of coins. Earlier this month, the Community Detail moved books for the Enfield Library book sale. This is an annual event that the detail takes part in.

ET/sg

c: D. A. Choinski

House approves safety bill for corrections officers

5-4-09

By CHRIS PUTZ
Staff Writer

ENFIELD — A bill proposed to create a permanent committee responsible for overseeing the health and safety of correctional officers who work in the state's prisons is halfway into existence.

The legislation, known as House Bill, 6684, was approved by the House of Representatives last Thursday.

"There has been disturbing increase of inmate assaults upon correctional staff," said state Rep. Karen Jarmoc, D-Enfield. Jarmoc was responsible for

introducing the legislation.

"An entity like this will work towards bringing that trend downwards," she said.

"Staff in the state's prisons perform a great service for our state, and we need to take steps to ensure that their safety isn't being compromised while on the job."

This bill hits home in Enfield where more than 800 inmates reside inside the correctional facility on Shaker Road.

"This is a significant step forward because it will be the first

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time that correctional officers themselves will actually have a seat on a state board like this," Jarmoc said. Their voices are critical when it comes to these topics.

The committee will be charged with reviewing the manner in which inmate assaults are investigated and classified, and also how data on the assaults is col-

lected and reported. It will also be responsible for reporting any recommendations on revisions to correctional policy and procedures directly to the Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission.

Membership will include various state officials, legislators, and correctional officer representatives.

According to Jarmoc, the idea for the legislation arose from the Task Force on Prison Populations and Correctional Officer Safety, which she chaired in 2008.

The legislation must still be approved by the State Senate. But Jarmoc said she is confident that will happen.

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