Report to the Legislature Pursuant to P.A. 252 of 2014 Article V, Section 435(3) Report on Reentry Legal Services

The department, in collaboration with legal aid of western Michigan and the legal aid and defender office, shall submit a report by April 1 that documents the number of new cases accepted, the types of cases, and case outcomes for completed work. The report shall be submitted to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on corrections, the senate and house fiscal agencies, the legislative corrections ombudsman, and the state budget director.

The Legal Aid and Defenders Office has initiated 91 individual cases since the beginning of the fiscal year. These cases cover legal matters including obtaining social security benefits and veterans' benefits, resolving child support issues, addressing selective service applications, securing parenting time and qualifying for a driver's license.

A total of 35 cases have been closed with advice, while 16 cases have been closed or are pending due to service provided by the legal aid and defenders office. Five cases are currently in litigation, with four related to parenting time and child support, while the fifth is related to obtaining SSI benefits.