

***Bamboozled, Hoodwinked,
Duped and Tricked
(The Fraudulent Good
Time/Work Time Credit
System inside Texas
Prisons)***

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in Texas - Movement***

*Dare to struggle, dare to WIN.
All power to the people!*



Peace and Blessings Sisters and Brothers!

During the 85th Legislative Session which began in January 2017 we saw Prisoner Rights Advocate Jennifer Erschabek lobby hard on behalf of Texas prisoners in order to push forward on parole reform efforts. Texas State Representative Senfronia Thompson crafted House Bill 2120 which would have directed the Parole board to recognize the Good Time and Work Time credits of all Texas prisoners. Prisoners with aggravated sentences would have been able to be Parole eligible sooner.

The Bill died in Committee. However, the efforts of Jennifer Erschabek and Rep Thompson should not be ignored or taken lightly. In light of the ultra-conservative Legislature which exists in Texas this bill HB2120 was a small step in the right direction.

One of the key things we lacked in 2017 was free-world support from the families and friends of prisoners in Texas. This is why we have put together this information in order to educate the public and raise their awareness. Please listen to what I am saying: Good Time, according to its legal definition may be discretionary. Good Time is awarded according to a prisoner's time earning status and for maintaining good behavior/conduct. To the contrary, Work Time is earned!

TDCJ does not pay prisoners for the work and labor they perform. Work and Labor that does not just help maintain the prisons they are housed in but in some cases actually generates a profit!

Instead, TDCJ allegedly awards work-time. By it's legal definition, the value of work time is earned time, which should in fact result in the reduction of a prisoner's sentence! But Texas has gamed the system.

The application of work-time, should not be discretionary or arbitrarily applied. Either work-time/earned time should count towards the

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reduction of a prisoner's sentence, or ALL TEXAS PRISONERS SHOULD BE PAID A FAIR WAGE OR BOTH!

If the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles and TDCJ persist in ignoring the actual value of work-time and with-holding said credits and benefits from TDCJ prisoners, I propose that both agencies be investigated immediately for violating Texas state and Federal Fraud Statutes.

As members of the Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee (IWOC) WE encourage all prisoners and their family members to think seriously about joining and supporting our Industrial Union Branch (IU 613). Did any of you pay attention to those Striking School Teachers in West Virginia?? That is an example of Union Power and Solidarity! There are thousands upon thousands of Incarcerated Workers in Texas Prisons whose voices need to be heard now!

We are planning to hold a rally/protest in Austin and Houston on June 19th, 2018 which seeks to draw support and raise awareness to our movements/campaign which seek to End Prison Slavery in Texas and amend the 13th Amendment of the US Constitution. Sponsors to be announced.

We have teamed up with the IWOC and put together some Core Demands which we are requesting that you share with your friends and family members so that they may contact Texas Legislators on our behalf! When Texas Legislators start receiving e-mails and Faxes from your family and friends it will let them know that we are very serious. Here are the Core Demands we have chosen and we will also provide you with the e-mail and fax numbers of Texas Legislators so you can ask your family and friends to aid us in this endeavor.

CORE DEMANDS

- 1.) The right to Habeas Corpus Counsel
- 2.) End the 'Quorum of One' Practices
- 3.) Meaningful Good Time/Work Time and Presumptive Parole.
Note: When Good Time, Work Time, and Flat Time equal 100%, a Texas Prisoner should be presumed to automatically make parole or discharge
- 4.) Payment/Compensation for Forced Labor
- 5.) End the \$100 Medical Co-Pay
- 6.) Establish a TDCJ Oversight Committee NOW!

We are pleading with our free-world members and friends to e-mail, call, or Fax the following Texas Legislators and request that they **END PRISON SLAVERY IN TEXAS** during the 86th Legislature Session in 2019. It can be done!!!

To learn more about the Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee (IWOC) please e-mail them at: iwoc@riseup.net write: IWW/IWOC, P.O. Box 414304, Kansas City, MO. 64141-4304

***In solidarity,
Comrade Malik***



Senate Committee on Criminal Justice

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