

By **ALFONSO A. NARVAEZ**  
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ALBANY, Feb. 2—A package of 11 bills designed to correct what were described as some of the worst abuses in the state's prisons was introduced in both houses of the Legislature today with bipartisan support.

The bills were prepared by the New York Civil Liberties Union, and a total of seven Republicans and 36 Democrats sponsored the various measures. Although the sponsorship of each bill is not identical, both Republican and Democratic legislators appear as co-sponsors of each bill.

These bills are in addition to almost 100 measures on prison reform and prisoner rights still in the legislative mopper from last year. Almost all of the latter were cited in an interim report issued last week by the Select Committee on Correctional Institutions, which is studying prison reform. The committee is headed by Hugh

R. Jones, president of the State Bar Association.

Many of the reforms in the bills introduced today were among the demands made by rebellious prisoners during the rioting last September at the Attica Correctional Facility. A total of 43 inmates and prison personnel died as a result of the uprising.

**'Very Minimum Reforms'**

In a joint statement today, the legislators said the bills represented "the very minimum reforms that must be enacted this year." The statement went on:

"The kinds of reforms represented by this package of bills—none of which will cost the state any significant monies—are long overdue and absolutely essential if our prisoners are to be left with any self-respect or incentive to return to society as constructive and law-abiding citizens."

The bills would do the following:

¶Abolish censorship of incoming and outgoing prisoner mail, but allow prison officials to open mail in the presence of prisoners to intercept contraband.

¶Liberalize visiting rights to permit inmates to see in private any person, except when prison officials have a "substantial basis" for believing that a particular visitor would jeopardize the security of the prison or the rehabilitation of the prisoner.

¶Establish basic due-process rights of inmates in prison disciplinary proceedings, including the right to a hearing to confront and cross-examine witnesses and to have the assistance of counsel.

¶Require that every inmate upon admission to prison be given written rules of the prison in Spanish or English, setting forth their rights and responsibilities.

¶Require parole boards to reach a decision within seven

days and provide a written statement of reasons if parole is denied.

¶Establish the right to adequate medical and dental treatment for all inmates, including the right to use outside doctors at no cost to the state.

¶Require that all inmates receive items of personal hygiene and receive access to bath or shower facilities every day.

¶Establish basic due-process rights of inmates in all parole revocation proceedings, including the right to a hearing, the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses and to be represented by counsel.

¶Provide that religious diets of inmates be respected and that if an inmate's religion prevents him from eating certain foods, an alternative choice be provided.

¶Establish a minimum right to access to prison libraries, including a law library.

¶Require that all clothing and bed linens used by inmates be laundered at least once a week.