Assembly Study of Prison Conditions

Sacramento

Assemblyman Willie L. Brown Jr. (Dem-San Francisco) announced yesterday that a special study of California conditions will be made by a subcommittee of his Assembly Ways and Means Committee.

Brown said the study had been considered since the summer and that prison violence in California and New York "make it imperative that the Legislature gain a much clearer understanding of what is going on in our prisons today."

The Reagan administration, Brown said, will recommend hiring more guards to improve prison security. But Brown said this is not enough.

"We must get at some of the underlying reasons for the tensions and try to find solutions to them," Brown said.

Numerous proposals were

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made at this legislative session to investigate prison conditions. One such proposal; by Senator John Nejedly (Rep-Walnut Crek) was killed in Brown's fiscal committee. Another, also by Nejedly, still is being considered by the Senate Rules Committee.

Brown's subcommittee, which will look into conditions at the California Institution for Women near Los Angeles and the Deuel Vocational Institute at Tracy, also will study the prison system's provision of medical service for convicts and the operation of inmate welfare funds.

Taking part with Brown will be Assemblymen William Bagley (Rep-San Rafael), Robert Crown (Dem-Oakland), John Foran (Dem-S.F.), Leo Ryan (Dem-Burlingame), Peter Schabarum (Rep-Covina) and Charles Warren (Dem-L.A.).

Our Correspondent

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