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**AB-2533 Inmates: indigence.** (2017-2018)

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**Assembly Bill No. 2533**

**CHAPTER 764**

An act to add Section 5007.7 to the Penal Code, relating to inmates.

[ Approved by Governor September 26, 2018. Filed with Secretary of State September 26, 2018. ]

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

AB 2533, Mark Stone. Inmates: indigence.

Existing law authorizes the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to maintain a canteen at any prison or institution under the department's jurisdiction for the sale of toilet articles and other sundries, as specified. Existing law requires the Secretary of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to deposit any funds of inmates in his or her possession in trust in the Treasury, as specified.

This bill would require that an inmate in a state prison who has maintained an inmate trust account with \$25 or less for 30 consecutive days be deemed indigent. The bill would require that an inmate who is indigent receive basic supplies necessary for maintaining personal hygiene and be provided with sufficient resources to communicate with and access the courts, as specified.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** Section 5007.7 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

**5007.7.** An inmate who has maintained an inmate trust account with twenty-five dollars (\$25) or less for 30 consecutive days shall be deemed indigent. An indigent inmate shall receive basic supplies necessary for maintaining personal hygiene. An indigent inmate shall be provided with sufficient resources to communicate with and access the courts, including, but not limited to, stamps, writing materials, envelopes, paper, and the services of a notary for the purpose of notarizing a signature on a document, as required.