

ASSEMBLY, No. 3262

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 25, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman ANTHONY S. VERRELLI

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Chaparro

SYNOPSIS

Requires certain county inmates be provided with reentry assistance before their release.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/5/2020)

1 **AN ACT** concerning certain county inmates and supplementing Title
2 30 of the Revised Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. a. The superintendent of each county correctional facility
8 shall provide to each county inmate at least 10 days prior to release
9 from that facility:

10 (1) A copy of the inmate's criminal history record and written
11 information on the inmate's right to have his criminal records
12 expunged under chapter 52 of Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes,
13 eligibility requirements for expungement, and the procedural
14 process for seeking expungement;

15 (2) General written information on the inmate's right to vote
16 under R.S.19:4-1;

17 (3) General written information on the availability of programs,
18 including faith-based and secular programs, that would assist in
19 removing barriers to the inmate's employment or participation in
20 vocational or educational rehabilitative programs, including, but not
21 limited to information concerning the "Rehabilitated Convicted
22 Offenders Act," P.L.1968, c.282 (C.2A:168A-1 et seq.) and the
23 certificate of rehabilitation under P.L.2007, c.327 (C.2A:168A-
24 7 et seq.);

25 (4) A detailed written record of the inmate's participation in
26 educational, training, employment, and medical or other treatment
27 programs while the inmate was incarcerated;

28 (5) A written accounting of the fines, assessments, surcharges,
29 restitution, penalties, child support arrearages, and any other
30 obligations due and payable by the inmate upon release;

31 (6) A non-driver identification card, which shall be issued by
32 the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission and for which the
33 Motor Vehicle Commission shall accept a former inmate's
34 Department of Corrections identification card to have a two-point
35 value in applying for the non-driver identification card;

36 (7) A copy of the inmate's birth certificate if the inmate was
37 born in New Jersey;

38 (8) Assistance in obtaining a Social Security card;

39 (9) General written information concerning child support,
40 including child support payments owed by the inmate, information
41 on how to obtain child support payments and information on where
42 to seek services regarding child support, child custody, and
43 establishing parentage; and

44 (10) A copy of the inmate's full medical record at no charge to
45 the inmate made available to the inmate in a safe and secure
46 manner.

47 b. The provisions of subsection a. of this section shall apply
48 only to those inmates who have been sentenced to a term of

1 incarceration and to inmates who have been denied bail pursuant to
2 the provisions P.L.2014, c.31 (C.2A:162-15 et al.).

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4 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month
5 after enactment.

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STATEMENT

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10 This bill requires the superintendent of each county correctional
11 facility to provide to inmates at least 10 days prior to their release
12 certain information, documents, and other assistance to facilitate
13 their reentry into the community.

14 Specifically, the bill requires these inmates to be provided with:
15 a copy of their criminal history record and written information on
16 the right to have criminal records expunged; general written
17 information on their right to vote; general written information on
18 the availability of programs, including faith-based and secular
19 programs, that would assist in removing barriers to their
20 employment or participation in vocational or educational
21 rehabilitative programs; a detailed written record of their
22 participation in educational, training, employment, and medical or
23 other treatment programs while incarcerated; a written accounting
24 of the fines, assessments, surcharges, restitution, penalties, child
25 support arrearages, and any other obligations due and payable upon
26 their release; a non-driver identification card; a copy of the their
27 birth certificate; assistance in obtaining a Social Security card;
28 general written information concerning child support, including
29 child support payments they owe, information on how to obtain
30 child support payments, and information on where to seek services
31 regarding child support, child custody, and establishing parentage;
32 and a copy of their full medical record.

33 The provisions of the bill apply only to those inmates who have
34 been sentenced to a term of incarceration and who have been denied
35 bail pursuant to the provisions of recently enacted bail reform law.
36 Under the bail reform law, courts have the authority to deny
37 defendants pretrial release and order pretrial detention.