

**104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY****State of Illinois****2025 and 2026****HB0044**

Introduced 1/9/2025, by Rep. Rita Mayfield

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

New Act

Creates the Community-Based Corrections Act. Provides that the Department of Corrections shall establish a program that funds community-based nonprofit providers to serve emerging adults as an alternative to traditional incarceration. Provides that community-based providers shall offer housing, workforce training, mental health counseling, and restorative justice programming in alignment with State guidelines. Provides that the program shall be subject to judicial discretion, allowing sentencing judges to assign eligible individuals to community-based settings instead of Department of Corrections facilities. Provides that all community-based providers must have a written agreement with a restorative justice court for all emerging adults within their care to participate in the restorative justice court programs. Provides that community-based providers shall be compensated at a rate equivalent to the monthly per-inmate cost of incarceration as determined by the Department in its Fiscal Impact Statement. Community-based providers shall be paid on a monthly basis for the number of individuals within their care. Provides that the Department of Corrections shall allocate existing budget authority for contractual services to fund the program created by the Act. Provides that the Department of Human Services shall establish operational standards, including housing conditions, workforce training quality, and mental health support services, to ensure program efficacy. Provides that the Department of Human Services shall monitor and evaluate providers to maintain compliance with State and judicial requirements. Provides that community-based providers shall submit annual reports to the Department of Corrections and the Department of Human Services detailing participant outcomes, including recidivism rates, employment statistics, and community reintegration success. Provides that the Department of Corrections shall report program performance to the General Assembly annually, including cost savings from reduced incarceration based on emerging adults participating with community-based providers for fewer years than they would serve in a Department of Corrections facility. Effective immediately.

LRB104 03575 RLC 13599 b

1 AN ACT concerning criminal law.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Community-Based Corrections Act.

6 Section 5. Purpose. The purpose of this Act is to create a  
7 transformative post-conviction model that reduces reliance on  
8 traditional incarceration for emerging adults by fostering  
9 partnerships between the Department of Corrections, the  
10 Department of Human Services, and nonprofit, community-based  
11 providers to implement restorative justice, workforce  
12 training, and mental health support.

13 Section 10. Definitions. In this Act:

14 "Community-based provider" means a nonprofit organization  
15 that provides residential and rehabilitative services to  
16 emerging adults.

17 "Emerging adult" means an individual who is at least 18  
18 years of age but under 26 years of age who has been convicted  
19 of a crime that is eligible for confinement in a penal  
20 institution.

21 "Penal institution" has the meaning ascribed to the term  
22 in Section 2-14 of the Criminal Code of 2012.

1 "Restorative justice court" means a judicial body  
2 facilitating community-based resolutions to address harm  
3 caused by offenders and promote rehabilitation.

4 Section 15. Establishment of community-based corrections.

5 (a) The Department of Corrections shall establish a  
6 program that funds community-based nonprofit providers to  
7 serve emerging adults as an alternative to traditional  
8 incarceration.

9 (b) Community-based providers shall offer housing,  
10 workforce training, mental health counseling, and restorative  
11 justice programming in alignment with State guidelines.

12 (c) The program shall be subject to judicial discretion,  
13 allowing sentencing judges to assign eligible individuals to  
14 community-based settings instead of Department of Corrections  
15 facilities. All community-based providers must have a written  
16 agreement with a restorative justice court for all emerging  
17 adults within their care to participate in the restorative  
18 justice court programs.

19 (d) The Department of Human Services shall approve  
20 community-based providers as eligible to participate in the  
21 program, based on their ability to deliver high-quality  
22 programming consistent with Department of Human Services  
23 mandates.

24 Section 20. Funding and payment structure.

1           (a) Community-based providers shall be compensated at a  
2     rate equivalent to the monthly per-inmate cost of  
3     incarceration as determined by the Department of Corrections  
4     in its Fiscal Impact Statement. Community-based providers  
5     shall be paid on a monthly basis for the number of individuals  
6     within their care.

7           (b) The Department of Corrections shall allocate existing  
8     budget authority for contractual services to fund the program  
9     created by this Act.

10           Section 25. Standards and oversight.

11           (a) The Department of Human Services shall establish  
12     operational standards, including housing conditions, workforce  
13     training quality, and mental health support services, to  
14     ensure program efficacy.

15           (b) The Department of Human Services shall monitor and  
16     evaluate providers to maintain compliance with State and  
17     judicial requirements.

18           Section 30. Reporting and accountability.

19           (a) Community-based providers shall submit annual reports  
20     to the Department of Corrections and the Department of Human  
21     Services detailing participant outcomes, including recidivism  
22     rates, employment statistics, and community reintegration  
23     success.

24           (b) The Department of Corrections shall report program

1 performance to the General Assembly annually, including cost  
2 savings from reduced incarceration based on emerging adults  
3 participating with community-based providers for fewer years  
4 than they would serve in a Department of Corrections facility.

5 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
6 becoming law.