

104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2025 and 2026 HB3415

Introduced 2/18/2025, by Rep. Amy Elik

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

730 ILCS 5/3-2.5-85

Amends the Unified Code of Corrections. Provides that the law enforcement agency of the committing county shall receive from the Department of Juvenile Justice reasonable written notice not less than 30 days prior to the target release date of a youth from the Department of Juvenile Justice.

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1 AN ACT concerning criminal law.

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

- Section 5. The Unified Code of Corrections is amended by changing Section 3-2.5-85 as follows:
- 6 (730 ILCS 5/3-2.5-85)
- Sec. 3-2.5-85. Eligibility for release; determination.
- 8 (a) Every youth committed to the Department of Juvenile
 9 Justice under Section 5-750 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987,
 10 except those committed for first degree murder, shall be:
 - (1) Eligible for aftercare release without regard to the length of time the youth has been confined or whether the youth has served any minimum term imposed.
 - (2) Placed on aftercare release on or before his or her 20th birthday or upon completion of the maximum term of confinement ordered by the court under Section 5-710 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987, whichever is sooner.
 - (3) Considered for aftercare release at least 30 days prior to the expiration of the first year of confinement and at least annually thereafter.
- 21 (b) Subsections (d) through (l) of this Section do not 22 apply when a youth is released under paragraph (2) of 23 subsection (a) of this Section or the youth's release is

- otherwise required by law or ordered by the court. Youth who have been tried as an adult and committed to the Department under Section 5-8-6 of this Code are only eligible for mandatory supervised release as an adult under Section 3-3-3 of this Code.
 - (c) The Department shall establish a process for deciding the date of release on aftercare for every youth committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice under Section 5-750 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987. The process shall include establishing a target release date upon commitment to the Department, the regular review and appropriate adjustment of the target release date, and the final release consideration at least 30 days prior to the youth's target release date. The establishment, adjustment, and final consideration of the target release date shall include consideration of the following factors:
 - (1) the nature and seriousness of the youth's offense;
 - (2) the likelihood the youth will reoffend or will pose a danger to the community based on an assessment of the youth's risks, strengths, and behavior; and
 - (3) the youth's progress since being committed to the Department.

The target release date for youth committed to the Department for first degree murder shall not precede the minimum period of confinement provided in Section 5-750 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987. These youth shall be considered

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- for release upon completion of their minimum term of confinement and at least annually thereafter. The target release date for youth committed to the Department as a Habitual Juvenile Offender or Violent Juvenile Offender under Section 5-815 or 5-820 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 shall be extended by not less than 12 months.
 - (d) If the youth being considered for aftercare release has a petition or any written submissions prepared on his or her behalf by an attorney or other representative, the attorney or representative for the youth must serve by certified mail the State's Attorney of the county where the youth was prosecuted with the petition or any written submissions 15 days prior to the youth's target release date.
- 14 (e) In making its determination of aftercare release, the
 15 Department shall consider:
 - (1) material transmitted to the Department by the clerk of the committing court under Section 5-750 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987;
 - (2) the report under Section 3-10-2;
- 20 (3) a report by the Department and any report by the 21 chief administrative officer of the institution or 22 facility;
 - (4) an aftercare release progress report;
 - (5) a medical and psychological report, if available;
- 25 (6) material in writing, or on film, video tape or 26 other electronic means in the form of a recording

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submitted by the youth whose aftercare release is being considered;

- (7) material in writing, or on film, video tape or other electronic means in the form of a recording or testimony submitted by the State's Attorney and the victim or a concerned citizen under the Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses Act; and
- (8) the youth's eligibility for commitment under the Sexually Violent Persons Commitment Act.
- (f) The prosecuting State's Attorney's office shall receive from the Department reasonable written notice not less than 30 days prior to the target release date and may submit relevant information by oral argument or testimony of victims and concerned citizens, or both, in writing, or on film, video tape or other electronic means or in the form of a recording to the Department for its consideration. The State's Attorney may waive the written notice of the target release date at any time. Upon written request of the State's Attorney's office, provided the request is received within 15 days of receipt of the written notice of the target release date, the Department shall hear protests to aftercare release. If a State's Attorney requests a protest hearing, the committed youth's attorney or other representative shall also receive notice of the request and a copy of any information submitted by the State's Attorney. This hearing shall take place prior to the youth's aftercare release. The Department shall schedule the

- 1 protest hearing date, providing at least 15 days' notice to
- 2 the State's Attorney. If the protest hearing is rescheduled,
- 3 the Department shall promptly notify the State's Attorney of
- 4 the new date.
- 5 (g) The victim of the violent crime for which the youth has
- 6 been sentenced shall receive notice of the target release date
- 7 as provided in paragraph (4) of subsection (d) of Section 4.5
- 8 of the Rights of Crime Victims and Witnesses Act.
- 9 (q-1) The law enforcement agency of the committing county
- 10 <u>shall receive from the Department of Juvenile Justice</u>
- 11 reasonable written notice not less than 30 days prior to the
- 12 target release date of a youth from the Department of Juvenile
- 13 Justice.
- 14 (h) The Department shall not release any material to the
- 15 youth, the youth's attorney, any third party, or any other
- 16 person containing any information from the victim or from a
- 17 person related to the victim by blood, adoption, or marriage
- 18 who has written objections, testified at any hearing, or
- 19 submitted audio or visual objections to the youth's aftercare
- 20 release, unless provided with a waiver from that objecting
- 21 party. The Department shall not release the names or addresses
- 22 of any person on its victim registry to any other person except
- 23 the victim, a law enforcement agency, or other victim
- 24 notification system.
- 25 (i) Any recording considered under the provisions of
- 26 paragraph (6) or (7) of subsection (e) or subsection (f) of

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Section shall be in the form designated by the this Department. The recording shall be both visual and aural. Every voice on the recording and person present shall be identified and the recording shall contain either a visual or aural statement of the person submitting the recording, the date of the recording, and the name of the youth whose 7 aftercare release is being considered. The recordings shall be retained by the Department and shall be considered during any subsequent aftercare release decision if the victim or State's Attorney submits in writing a declaration clearly identifying the recording as representing the position of the victim or State's Attorney regarding the release of the youth.

- 13 (j) The Department shall not release a youth eligible for aftercare release if it determines that: 14
 - (1) there is a substantial risk that he or she will not conform to reasonable conditions of aftercare release;
 - (2) his or her release at that time would deprecate her offense or promote seriousness of his or the disrespect for the law; or
 - (3) his or her release would have a substantially adverse effect on institutional discipline.
 - (k) The Department shall render its release decision and shall state the basis therefor both in the records of the Department and in written notice to the vouth who was considered for aftercare release. In its decision, the Department shall set the youth's time for aftercare release,

- 1 or if it denies aftercare release it shall provide for
- 2 reconsideration of aftercare release not less frequently than
- 3 once each year.
- 4 (1) The Department shall ensure all evaluations and
- 5 proceedings under the Sexually Violent Persons Commitment Act
- 6 are completed prior to any youth's release, when applicable.
- 7 (m) Any youth whose aftercare release has been revoked by
- 8 the Prisoner Review Board under Section 3-3-9.5 of this Code
- 9 may be rereleased to the full aftercare release term by the
- 10 Department at any time in accordance with this Section. Youth
- 11 rereleased under this subsection shall be subject to Sections
- 12 3-2.5-70, 3-2.5-75, 3-2.5-80, 3-2.5-90, 3-2.5-95, and 3-3-9.5
- 13 of this Code.
- 14 (n) The Department shall adopt rules regarding the
- 15 exercise of its discretion under this Section.
- 16 (Source: P.A. 102-350, eff. 8-13-21.)