



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB3316

Introduced 2/3/2026, by Sen. Lakesia Collins

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Emerging Adult Criminal Justice Task Force Act. Establishes the Emerging Adult Criminal Justice Task Force within the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. Provides that the Task Force shall hold public meetings. Requires at least 3 meetings of the Task Force to be held in different regions of Illinois. Provides that the first meeting of the Task Force shall be held within 60 days after the appointment of its members. Provides that the Task Force shall review Illinois law and practices affecting emerging adults across pretrial, sentencing, corrections, supervision, and reentry. Provides that the Task Force shall develop recommendations for statutory, policy, and programmatic improvements to the Illinois criminal justice system. Allows any Task Force member to prepare a written dissent or statement of concern regarding any finding or recommendation. Provides that the Task Force shall submit an interim report summarizing preliminary findings, analyses, and recommendations, to the Governor and the General Assembly, no later than January 31, 2027. Provides that the Task Force shall submit a final report, including all final findings and recommendations, draft statutory language, and estimated fiscal impacts, no later than December 1, 2027. Repeals the Act on June 30, 2028. Effective immediately.

LRB104 16799 WRO 30208 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 Emerging Adult Criminal Justice Task Force Act.

6 Section 5. Findings. The General Assembly finds that:

7 (1) Emerging adults are disproportionately involved in  
8 the criminal justice system. National data consistently  
9 show that individuals in this age group have the highest  
10 rates of arrest, jail admissions, prison admissions, and  
11 rearrest.

12 (2) Developmental psychology and neuroscience conclude  
13 that judgment, impulse control, and psychosocial maturity  
14 continue developing into the mid-20s. Emerging adults  
15 differ significantly from older adults in risk assessment,  
16 susceptibility to peer influence, emotional regulation,  
17 and decision-making under stress.

18 (3) Emerging adults also face elevated rates of mental  
19 health disorders, trauma exposure, substance use  
20 disorders, unemployment, and housing instability. These  
21 vulnerabilities are closely linked to system involvement.

22 (4) Despite these challenges, emerging adults possess  
23 strong capacity for change. Their brains retain high

1 neuroplasticity, and appropriate interventions during this  
2 developmental period produce greater long-term benefits  
3 than comparable interventions for older adults.

4 (5) Traditional adult criminal justice responses can  
5 be counterproductive for emerging adults. Adult jails and  
6 prisons are associated with higher rates of victimization,  
7 self-harm, long-term disability, and recidivism among this  
8 population.

9 (6) States and jurisdictions across the U.S. have  
10 created special laws or practices for emerging adults,  
11 including extended juvenile jurisdiction, youthful  
12 offender statutes, specialized probation units, young  
13 adult courts, and correctional units tailored to this age  
14 group.

15 (7) Illinois has taken several important steps,  
16 including youthful offender parole, the First Time Weapon  
17 Offender Program, and the Cook County SEED Program, but it  
18 has not comprehensively examined the full spectrum of  
19 policies affecting emerging adults.

20 (8) Cost-benefit analyses of diversion and  
21 developmentally tailored interventions consistently find  
22 significant taxpayer savings, due to reduced  
23 incarceration, lower recidivism, and improved education  
24 and employment outcomes.

25 (9) Illinois would benefit from a comprehensive,  
26 bipartisan, data-driven review of approaches to emerging

1 adults across the criminal justice system.

2

3 Section 10. Purpose. The purpose of this Act is to create a  
4 bipartisan, bicameral Task Force to study and recommend  
5 strategies for developmentally appropriate, cost-effective,  
6 and equitable approaches to emerging adults in Illinois.

7 Section 15. Definitions. In this Act:

8 "Authority" means the Illinois Criminal Justice  
9 Information Authority.

10 "Emerging adult" means an individual who is 18 to 25 years  
11 of age.

12 "Task Force" means the Task Force on Emerging Adults in  
13 the Criminal Justice System established under this Act.

14 Section 20. Establishment of Task Force. The Task Force on  
15 Emerging Adults in the Criminal Justice System is established  
16 within the Authority and shall be provided staffing, research,  
17 and administrative support by the Authority.

18 Section 25. Membership.

19 (a) The Task Force shall be bipartisan, bicameral, and  
20 include representation from stakeholders in the criminal  
21 justice system, organizations that work extensively with young  
22 adults, and those with lived experience in the criminal

1 justice system as emerging adults.

2 (b) The Task Force shall consist of the following members:

3 (1) two members of the Senate appointed by the  
4 President of the Senate, one of whom shall be designated  
5 as co-chair of the Task Force;

6 (2) two members of the Senate appointed by the  
7 Minority Leader of the Senate;

8 (3) two members of the House appointed by the Speaker  
9 of the House, one of whom shall be designated as co-chair  
10 of the Task Force;

11 (4) two members of the House appointed by the Minority  
12 Leader of the House; and

13 (5) the following members appointed by the Governor:

14 (A) the Executive Director of the Authority or the  
15 Executive Director's designee;

16 (B) the Director of Corrections or the Director's  
17 designee;

18 (C) the Director of Juvenile Justice or the  
19 Director's designee;

20 (D) the Director of the Administrative Office of  
21 the Illinois Courts or the Director's designee;

22 (E) one circuit court judge with criminal or  
23 problem-solving court experience;

24 (F) three State's Attorneys representing counties  
25 of varying size;

26 (G) three Public Defenders representing counties

1 of varying size;

2 (H) one representative of a statewide or regional  
3 victims' rights organization;

4 (I) one representative of a municipal police  
5 department;

6 (J) one representative of a sheriff's office that  
7 operates a county jail;

8 (K) one representative of a community-based legal  
9 services or holistic defense organization serving  
10 emerging adults;

11 (L) one representative of a community-based  
12 organization that provides reentry services to  
13 returning citizens, including emerging adults;

14 (M) one representative of a community-based  
15 organization providing education, workforce  
16 development, housing, or behavioral health services to  
17 emerging adults;

18 (N) one representative of an employer association,  
19 trade group, or major employer who regularly hires and  
20 supervises young adults who are ages 18 to 25;

21 (O) one administrator or faculty member from an  
22 Illinois community college or public university with  
23 expertise in student development or the behavior of  
24 emerging adults;

25 (P) one licensed mental health professional or  
26 developmental psychologist with expertise in late

1           adolescence and emerging adulthood; and

2                   (Q) two individuals with lived experience of  
3           justice involvement for offenses committed between  
4           ages 18 and 25, including at least one formerly  
5           incarcerated in an adult facility.

6           (c) Members shall serve without compensation but may be  
7           reimbursed for reasonable expenses subject to appropriation.

8           (d) Vacancies shall be filled in the manner of original  
9           appointment.

10          (e) Membership shall reflect, to the extent practicable,  
11          the demographic and geographic diversity of the State.

12          Section 30. Meetings; quorum; public input. The first  
13          meeting of the Task Force shall be held within 60 days after  
14          the appointment of a majority of its members. Meetings of the  
15          Task Force shall be called by the co-chairs. A majority of the  
16          members of the Task Force shall constitute a quorum. All  
17          meetings of the Task Force shall be subject to the Open  
18          Meetings Act. At least 3 public hearings of the Task Force  
19          shall be held in different regions of Illinois.

20          Section 35. Duties. The Task Force shall:

21                   (1) review Illinois law and practice affecting  
22           emerging adults across pretrial, sentencing, corrections,  
23           supervision, and reentry;

24                   (2) examine emerging adult models in other states and

1 jurisdictions, including the United Nations Standard  
2 Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures and the United  
3 Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of  
4 Juvenile Justice;

5 (3) integrate and summarize current developmental  
6 research on emerging adults;

7 (4) analyze racial, ethnic, gender, and geographic  
8 disparities affecting emerging adults;

9 (5) conduct benefit-cost and fiscal analyses of  
10 current practices versus developmentally tailored  
11 alternatives;

12 (6) engage stakeholders, including crime survivors,  
13 law enforcement organizations, employers, higher education  
14 institutions, community organizations, and individuals  
15 with lived experience with the criminal justice system;

16 (7) develop recommendations for statutory, policy, and  
17 programmatic improvements; and

18 (8) allow any Task Force member to prepare a written  
19 dissent or statement of concern regarding any finding or  
20 recommendation, which shall be included verbatim in all  
21 interim and final reports.

22 Section 40. Reports.

23 (a) No later than January 31, 2027, the Task Force shall  
24 submit an interim report to the Governor and the General  
25 Assembly summarizing its preliminary findings, analyses, and

1 recommendations. The interim report shall include any written  
2 dissents or statements of concern submitted by Task Force  
3 members.

4 (b) No later than December 1, 2027, the Task Force shall  
5 submit a final report to the Governor and the General  
6 Assembly, and the Authority shall publish the report on its  
7 website. The final report shall include:

8 (1) all final findings and recommendations;

9 (2) draft statutory language, where appropriate;

10 (3) estimated fiscal impacts and benefit-cost  
11 analyses; and

12 (4) all written dissents or statements of concern  
13 submitted by any member, which shall be included in full  
14 and published in the public version of the report.

15 (c) Any member may submit a dissent or statement of  
16 concern up to 14 days following the adoption of any  
17 recommendation. The Authority shall publish all dissenting  
18 statements alongside majority recommendations.

19 Section 45. Support; cooperation.

20 (a) The Authority shall provide staff support, research,  
21 data analysis, and administrative assistance to the Task  
22 Force.

23 (b) State and local agencies shall cooperate with  
24 reasonable requests for data and information, consistent with  
25 all confidentiality laws.

1           Section 50. Repeal. This Act is repealed on June 30, 2028.

2           Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
3 becoming law.