STATE OF NEW YORK

5817

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 3, 2025

Introduced by Sens. SEPULVEDA, COMRIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Crime Victims, Crime and Correction

AN ACT to amend the correction law and the penal law, in relation to temporary release eligibility for judicially-ordered comprehensive alcohol and substance abuse treatment

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Subdivision 2 of section 851 of the correction law, as amended by section 228 of chapter 322 of the laws of 2021, is amended to read as follows:

2. "Eligible incarcerated individual" means: a person confined in an institution who is eligible for release on parole or who will become eligible for release on parole or conditional release within two years **or who has completed a judicially-ordered substance abuse treatment program in a state correctional facility pursuant to subdivision six of section 60.04 of the penal law**. Provided, however, that a person under sentence for an offense defined in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subdivision one of section 70.02 of the penal law, where such offense involved the use or threatened use of a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument shall not be eligible to participate in a work release program until [~~he or she~~] **such person** is eligible for release on parole or who will be eligible for release on parole or conditional release within eighteen months. Provided, further, however, that a person under a determinate sentence as a second felony drug offender for a class B felony offense defined in article two hundred twenty of the penal law, who was sentenced pursuant to section 70.70 of such law, shall not be eligible to participate in a temporary release program until the time served under imprisonment for [~~his or her~~] **such person's** determinate sentence, including any jail time credited pursuant to the provisions of article seventy of the penal law, shall be at least eighteen months. In the case of a person serving an

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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indeterminate sentence of imprisonment imposed pursuant to the penal law in effect after September one, nineteen hundred sixty-seven, for the purposes of this article parole eligibility shall be upon the expiration of the minimum period of imprisonment fixed by the court or where the court has not fixed any period, after service of the minimum period fixed by the state board of parole. If an incarcerated individual is denied release on parole, such incarcerated individual shall not be deemed an eligible incarcerated individual until [~~he or she~~] **such incarcerated individual** is within two years of [~~his or her~~] **their** next scheduled appearance before the state parole board. In any case where an incarcerated individual is denied release on parole while participating in a temporary release program, the department shall review the status of the incarcerated individual to determine if continued placement in the program is appropriate. No person convicted of any escape or absconding offense defined in article two hundred five of the penal law shall be eligible for temporary release. Further, no person under sentence for aggravated harassment of an employee by an incarcerated individual as defined in section 240.32 of the penal law for, any homicide offense defined in article one hundred twenty-five of the penal law, for any sex offense defined in article one hundred thirty of the penal law, or for an offense defined in section 255.25, 255.26 or 255.27 of the penal law shall be eligible to participate in a work release program as defined in subdivision three of this section. Nor shall any person under sentence for any sex offense defined in article one hundred thirty of the penal law be eligible to participate in a community services program as defined in subdivision five of this section. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no person who is an otherwise eligible incarcerated individual who is under sentence for a crime involving: (a) infliction of serious physical injury upon another as defined in the penal law or (b) any other offense involving the use or threatened use of a deadly weapon may participate in a temporary release program without the written approval of the commissioner. The commissioner shall promulgate regulations giving direction to the temporary release committee at each institution in order to aid such committees in carrying out this mandate.

The governor, by executive order, may exclude or limit the participation of any class of otherwise eligible incarcerated individuals from participation in a temporary release program. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to affect either the validity of any executive order previously issued limiting the participation of otherwise eligible incarcerated individuals in such program or the authority of the commissioner to impose appropriate regulations limiting such participation.

§ 2. Subdivision 2 of section 851 of the correction law, as amended by section 228-b of chapter 322 of the laws of 2021, is amended to read as follows:

2. "Eligible incarcerated individual" means: a person confined in an institution who is eligible for release on parole or who will become eligible for release on parole or conditional release within two years **or who has completed a judicially-ordered substance abuse treatment program in a state correctional facility pursuant to subdivision six of section 60.04 of the penal law**. Provided, that a person under a determinate sentence as a second felony drug offender for a class B felony offense defined in article two hundred twenty of the penal law, who was sentenced pursuant to section 70.70 of such law, shall not be eligible to participate in a temporary release program until the time served under imprisonment for [~~his or her~~] **such person's** determinate sentence,

including any jail time credited pursuant to the provisions of article seventy of the penal law, shall be at least eighteen months. In the case of a person serving an indeterminate sentence of imprisonment imposed pursuant to the penal law in effect after September one, nineteen hundred sixty-seven, for the purposes of this article parole eligibility shall be upon the expiration of the minimum period of imprisonment fixed by the court or where the court has not fixed any period, after service of the minimum period fixed by the state board of parole. If an incarcerated individual is denied release on parole, such incarcerated individual shall not be deemed an eligible incarcerated individual until [~~he or she~~] **such incarcerated individual** is within two years of [~~his or her~~] **their** next scheduled appearance before the state parole board. In any case where an incarcerated individual is denied release on parole while participating in a temporary release program, the department shall review the status of the incarcerated individual to determine if continued placement in the program is appropriate. No person convicted of any escape or absconding offense defined in article two hundred five of the penal law shall be eligible for temporary release. Nor shall any person under sentence for any sex offense defined in article one hundred thirty of the penal law be eligible to participate in a community services program as defined in subdivision five of this section. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no person who is an otherwise eligible incarcerated individual who is under sentence for a crime involving: (a) infliction of serious physical injury upon another as defined in the penal law, (b) a sex offense involving forcible compulsion, or (c) any other offense involving the use or threatened use of a deadly weapon may participate in a temporary release program without the written approval of the commissioner. The commissioner shall promulgate regulations giving direction to the temporary release committee at each institution in order to aid such committees in carrying out this mandate.

The governor, by executive order, may exclude or limit the participation of any class of otherwise eligible incarcerated individuals from participation in a temporary release program. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to affect either the validity of any executive order previously issued limiting the participation of otherwise eligible incarcerated individuals in such program or the authority of the commissioner to impose appropriate regulations limiting such participation.

§ 3. Subdivision 2 of section 851 of the correction law, as added by section 228-d of chapter 322 of the laws of 2021, is amended to read as follows:

2. "Eligible incarcerated individual" means a person confined in an institution where a work release program has been established who is eligible for release on parole or who will become eligible for release on parole within one year **or who has completed a judicially-ordered substance abuse treatment program in a state correctional facility pursuant to subdivision six of section 60.04 of the penal law**.

§ 4. Subdivision 6 of section 60.04 of the penal law, as amended by section 120 of subpart B of part C of chapter 62 of the laws of 2011, is amended to read as follows:

6. Substance abuse treatment. When the court imposes a sentence of imprisonment which requires a commitment to the state department of corrections and community supervision upon a person who stands convicted of a controlled substance or marihuana offense, the court may, upon motion of the defendant in its discretion, issue an order directing that the department of corrections and community supervision enroll the defendant in the comprehensive alcohol and substance abuse treatment

program in an alcohol and substance abuse correctional annex as defined in subdivision eighteen of section two of the correction law, provided that the defendant will satisfy the statutory eligibility criteria for participation in such program. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this subdivision, any defendant to be enrolled in such program pursuant to this subdivision shall be governed by the same rules and regulations promulgated by the department of corrections and community supervision, including without limitation those rules and regulations establishing requirements for completion and those rules and regulations governing discipline and removal from the program. **Such defendant shall be deemed eligible for temporary release pursuant to subdivision two of section eight hundred fifty-one of the correction law upon completion of such program.** No such period of court ordered corrections based drug abuse treatment pursuant to this subdivision shall be required to extend beyond the defendant's conditional release date.

§ 5. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law; provided, however, that the amendments to subdivision 2 of section 851 of the correction law made by section one of this act shall be subject to the expiration and reversion of such subdivision and section pursuant to subdivision (c) of section 46 of chapter 60 of the laws of 1994 and section 10 of chapter 339 of the laws of 1972, as amended, when upon such date the provisions of section two of this act shall take effect; provided, further, that the amendments to subdivision 2 of section 851 of the correction law made by section two of this act shall expire on the same date as subdivision (c) of section 46 of chapter 60 of the laws of 1994, section 10 of chapter 339 of the laws of 1972, and section 5 of chapter 554 of the laws of 1986, as amended, when upon such date the provisions of section three of this act shall take effect.