

# STATE OF NEW YORK

2667

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

January 19, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. STERN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Correction

AN ACT to amend the correction law, in relation to sex offender registration and residency restrictions

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

1 Section 1. Section 168-h of the correction law, as amended by chapter  
2 11 of the laws of 2002, and subdivisions 1 and 2 as amended by chapter 1  
3 of the laws of 2006, is amended to read as follows:

4 § 168-h. Duration of registration and verification. 1. The duration of  
5 registration and verification for a sex offender who has not been desig-  
6 nated a sexual predator, or a sexually violent offender, or a predicate  
7 sex offender, and who is classified as a level one risk, or who has not  
8 yet received a risk level classification, shall be annually for a period  
9 of twenty years from the initial date of registration.

10 2. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a sex offender who is classified as  
11 a level one risk and has been designated as a sexual predator, sexually  
12 violent offender, or predicate sex offender or has been convicted of or  
13 has been convicted for an attempt to commit:

14 (i) any of the provisions of section 120.70, 130.35, 130.50, 130.53,  
15 130.65, 130.65-a, 130.66, 130.67, 130.70, 130.75, 130.80, 130.90,  
16 130.91, 130.95, 130.96, 135.05, 135.10, 135.20, 135.25, 230.06, 230.32,  
17 250.50, 255.27, 263.10, 263.15 or 263.30 of the penal law;

18 (ii) any of the provisions of section 2251, 2251A, 2252, 2252A, 2260,  
19 2422, 2423 or 2425 of title 18 of the United States code; or

20 (iii) has been convicted of any offense in any other jurisdiction  
21 which includes all of the essential elements of any of the foregoing  
22 crimes in this subdivision, shall register annually for life.

23 3. A sex offender who is classified as a level one risk and has been  
24 convicted of or has been convicted for an attempt to commit any of the  
25 provisions of section 130.20, 130.25, 130.30, 130.40, 130.45, 130.52,

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

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1 130.55 or 130.60 of the penal law, or has been convicted of any offense  
2 in any other jurisdiction which includes all of the essential elements  
3 of any of the foregoing crimes in this subdivision, shall register annu-  
4 ally for life unless at the time of the act, the defendant was less than  
5 twenty-one years old, in which case registration shall be annually for a  
6 period of twenty years from the initial date of registration unless the  
7 sex offender has been designated a sexual predator, sexually violent  
8 offender or predicate sex offender and is required to register for life.

9 4. The duration of registration and verification for a sex offender  
10 who, on or after March eleventh, two thousand two, is designated a sexu-  
11 al predator, or a sexually violent offender, or a predicate sex offen-  
12 der, or who is classified as a level two or level three risk, shall be  
13 annually for life. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a sex offender who is  
14 classified as a level one or level two risk and who is not designated a  
15 sexual predator, a sexually violent offender or a predicate sex offen-  
16 der, may be relieved of the duty to register and verify after a minimum  
17 period of thirty years of registration as provided by subdivision one of  
18 section one hundred sixty-eight-o of this article.

19 [~~3-~~] 5. Any sex offender having been designated a level three risk or  
20 a sexual predator shall also personally verify his or her address every  
21 ninety calendar days with the local law enforcement agency having juris-  
22 diction where the offender resides.

23 § 2. Subdivision 1 of section 168-n of the correction law, as amended  
24 by chapter 11 of the laws of 2002, is amended to read as follows:

25 1. A determination that an offender is a sexual predator, sexually  
26 violent offender, or predicate sex offender as defined in subdivision  
27 seven of section one hundred sixty-eight-a of this article shall be made  
28 prior to the discharge, parole, release to post-release supervision or  
29 release of such offender by the sentencing court applying the guidelines  
30 established in subdivision five of section one hundred sixty-eight-1 of  
31 this article after receiving a recommendation from the board pursuant to  
32 section one hundred sixty-eight-1 of this article. The court shall  
33 assign a sexual predator designation to a sex offender determined to be  
34 a sexual predator as defined in subdivision seven of section one hundred  
35 sixty-eight-a of this article. The court shall assign a sexually violent  
36 offender designation to an offender convicted of a sexually violent  
37 offense as defined in subdivision three of section one hundred sixty-  
38 eight-a of this article. The court shall assign a predicate sex offender  
39 designation to a sex offender who is a predicate sex offender pursuant  
40 to subdivision seven of section one hundred sixty-eight-a of this arti-  
41 cle.

42 § 3. Subdivision 1 of section 168-o of the correction law, as amended  
43 by chapter 1 of the laws of 2006, is amended to read as follows:

44 1. Any sex offender who is classified as a level one or level two  
45 risk, and who has not been designated a sexual predator, or a sexually  
46 violent offender, or a predicate sex offender, who is required to regis-  
47 ter or verify pursuant to this article and who has been registered for a  
48 minimum period of thirty years may be relieved of any further duty to  
49 register upon the granting of a petition for relief by the sentencing  
50 court or by the court which made the determination regarding duration of  
51 registration and level of notification. The sex offender shall bear the  
52 burden of proving by clear and convincing evidence that his or her risk  
53 of repeat offense and threat to public safety is such that registration  
54 or verification is no longer necessary. Such petition, if granted, shall  
55 not relieve the petitioner of the duty to register pursuant to this  
56 article upon conviction of any offense requiring registration in the

1 future. Such a petition shall not be considered more than once every two  
2 years. In the event that the sex offender's petition for relief is  
3 granted, the district attorney may appeal as of right from the order  
4 pursuant to the provisions of articles fifty-five, fifty-six and fifty-  
5 seven of the civil practice law and rules. Where counsel has been  
6 assigned to represent the sex offender upon the ground that the sex  
7 offender is financially unable to retain counsel, that assignment shall  
8 be continued throughout the pendency of the appeal, and the person may  
9 appeal as a poor person pursuant to article eighteen-B of the county  
10 law.

11 § 4. Section 168-w of the correction law, as renumbered by chapter 604  
12 of the laws of 2005, is renumbered section 168-x and a new section 168-w  
13 is added to read as follows:

14 § 168-w. Child and victim safety zones. Local or state law enforcement  
15 agencies, or their designees may monitor and verify registration compli-  
16 ance and counties, may enact by local law or resolution requirements  
17 for: 1. sex offenders to provide information to law enforcement or their  
18 designee to verify home and employment address which have been regis-  
19 tered pursuant to the provisions of this article; 2. sex offenders  
20 registered as homeless to provide a description of their location every  
21 twenty-four hours to law enforcement or its designee in that jurisdic-  
22 tion; and/or 3. sex offender residency restrictions for sex offenders  
23 required to register pursuant to this article who are classified as a  
24 level three risk and/or, who committed an offense against a minor and/or  
25 who have been assigned a designation pursuant to this article, provided  
26 that such restrictions:

27 (a) do not require a sex offender to live beyond one thousand feet  
28 from public, private and charter schools for all level three regis-  
29 trants, for registrants who committed an offense against a minor, and  
30 for registrants who have been assigned a designation pursuant to this  
31 article;

32 (b) do not require a sex offender to live beyond a quarter mile from  
33 the workplace and residence of any registrant's victim or victims; and

34 (c) do not require a sex offender who caused the death of his or her  
35 victim to live beyond a quarter mile from the prior residence of the  
36 deceased victim, if the spouse, child, step child, sibling, parent,  
37 grandparent or grandchild of the victim continues to reside at that  
38 residence.

39 § 5. Severability clause. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivi-  
40 sion, section or part of this act shall be adjudged by any court of  
41 competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect,  
42 impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in  
43 its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section  
44 or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judg-  
45 ment shall have been rendered. It is hereby declared to be the intent of  
46 the legislature that this act would have been enacted even if such  
47 invalid provisions had not been included herein.

48 § 6. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall  
49 have become a law and shall apply to all sex offenders registered or  
50 required to register immediately prior to the effective date of this  
51 act, or who are required to register on or after such date.