

STATE OF NEW YORK

8930--A

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

July 16, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. HUNTER, BURDICK, GLICK, CONRAD, HEVESI, K. BROWN, GALLAHAN, SCHIAVONI, LEVENBERG -- read once and referred to the Committee on Correction -- recommitted to the Committee on Correction in accordance with Assembly Rule 3, sec. 2 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the correction law, in relation to risk assessment instruments for sex offenders

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision 5 of section 168-1 of the correction law, as
2 added by chapter 192 of the laws of 1995 and subparagraph (i) of para-
3 graph (a) as amended by chapter 11 of the laws of 2002, is amended and a
4 new subdivision 5-a is added to read as follows:

5 5. The board shall develop guidelines and procedures which include the
6 use of validated risk assessment instruments to assess the risk of a
7 repeat offense by such sex offender and the threat posed to the public
8 safety. Such risk assessment instruments shall be periodically subjected
9 to empirical re-validation. Such guidelines shall ~~[be based upon,]~~
10 incorporate factors found to be predictive of risk of re-offense,
11 including but not limited to, the following:

12 (a) criminal history factors indicative of high risk of repeat
13 offense, including:

14 (i) whether the sex offender has a mental abnormality or personality
15 disorder that makes ~~[him or her]~~ the sex offender likely to engage in
16 predatory sexually violent offenses;

17 (ii) whether the sex offender's conduct was found to be characterized
18 by repetitive and compulsive behavior, associated with drugs or alcohol;

19 (iii) whether the sex offender served the maximum term;

20 (iv) whether the sex offender committed the felony sex offense against
21 a child;

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

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1 (v) the age of the sex offender at the time of the commission of the
2 first sex offense;
3 (b) other criminal history factors to be considered in determining
4 risk, including:
5 (i) the relationship between such sex offender and the victim;
6 (ii) whether the offense involved the use of a weapon, violence or
7 infliction of serious bodily injury;
8 (iii) the number, date and nature of prior offenses;
9 (c) conditions of release that minimize risk ~~of~~ of re-offense,
10 including but not limited to whether the sex offender is under super-
11 vision; receiving counseling, therapy or treatment; or residing in a
12 home situation that provides guidance and supervision;
13 (d) physical conditions that minimize risk of re-offense, including
14 but not limited to advanced age or debilitating illness;
15 (e) whether psychological or psychiatric profiles indicate a risk of
16 recidivism;
17 (f) the sex offender's response to treatment;
18 (g) recent behavior, including behavior while confined;
19 (h) recent threats or gestures against persons or expressions of
20 intent to commit additional offenses; and
21 (i) review of any victim impact statement.

22 5-a. (a) The board in consultation with the department and the divi-
23 sion of criminal justice services shall maintain a statewide database of
24 sex offender recidivism statistics.

25 (b) The board in consultation with the department and the division of
26 criminal justice services shall conduct a periodic retroactive study at
27 least every five years to determine the predictive value of the risk
28 assessment instruments used to assign risk of repeat offense levels to
29 sex offenders pursuant to subdivision six of this section. After each
30 such study the board shall prepare a detailed report to the governor and
31 legislature determining the predictive value of the risk assessment
32 instruments and the predictive value of each factor considered in the
33 overall risk assessment when applied to the statewide database main-
34 tained pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subdivision. The report shall
35 include recommended changes to the guidelines and risk assessment
36 instruments to enhance their predictive capabilities for the purpose of
37 periodic revalidation of such guidelines and risk assessment instruments
38 pursuant to subdivision five of this section. The first such study shall
39 be completed within two years of the effective date of this subdivision.

40 § 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after
41 it shall have become a law.