

# STATE OF NEW YORK

439

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

(Prefiled)

January 8, 2025

Introduced by Sens. MYRIE, BAILEY, COMRIE, GONZALEZ, HOYLMAN-SIGAL, JACKSON, KAVANAGH, KRUEGER, RAMOS, RIVERA, SALAZAR, SANDERS, SERRANO -- 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, in relation to enacting "the prison minimum wage act"

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

1 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as "the prison  
2 minimum wage act".

3 § 2. Subdivision 3 of section 170 of the correction law, as amended by  
4 chapter 322 of the laws of 2021, is amended to read as follows:

5 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an incarcerated indi-  
6 vidual may be permitted to leave the institution under guard to volun-  
7 tarily perform work for a nonprofit organization; provided that each  
8 incarcerated individual who volunteers to perform work for a nonprofit  
9 organization shall be paid a minimum hourly wage of not less than three  
10 dollars. The department shall be entitled to charge the nonprofit organ-  
11 ization a reasonable hourly rate for meals and housing of such prison-  
12 ers, if any. As used in this section, the term "nonprofit organization"  
13 means an organization operated exclusively for religious, charitable, or  
14 educational purposes, no part of the net earnings of which inures to the  
15 benefit of any private shareholder or individual.

16 § 3. Section 171 of the correction law is amended by adding a new  
17 subdivision 3 to read as follows:

18 3. Any incarcerated individual performing labor as described in this  
19 section shall be compensated for their labor in accordance with the  
20 provisions of subdivision five of section one hundred eighty-seven of  
21 this article.

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

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1 § 4. Subdivision 7 of section 177 of the correction law, as renumbered  
2 by chapter 256 of the laws of 2010, is renumbered subdivision 8 and a  
3 new subdivision 7 is added to read as follows:

4 7. Any incarcerated individual performing labor as described in this  
5 section shall be compensated for their labor in accordance with the  
6 provisions of subdivision five of section one hundred eighty-seven of  
7 this article.

8 § 5. Section 178 of the correction law, as amended by chapter 322 of  
9 the laws of 2021, is amended to read as follows:

10 § 178. Participation in work release and other community activities.  
11 1. Nothing contained in this article shall be construed or applied so as  
12 to prohibit private employment of incarcerated individuals in the commu-  
13 nity under a work release program, or a residential treatment facility  
14 program formulated pursuant to any provision of this chapter.

15 2. Any incarcerated individual who is employed under a work release  
16 program or a residential treatment facility program formulated pursuant  
17 to any provision of this chapter shall be compensated for their labor in  
18 accordance with the provisions of subdivision five of section one  
19 hundred eighty-seven of this article.

20 § 6. Section 184 of the correction law is amended by adding a new  
21 subdivision 3 to read as follows:

22 3. Any incarcerated individual performing work as described in this  
23 section shall be compensated for their labor in accordance with the  
24 provisions of subdivision five of section one hundred eighty-seven of  
25 this article.

26 § 7. Section 186 of the correction law is amended by adding a new  
27 subdivision 5 to read as follows:

28 5. Any service performed by an incarcerated individual as described in  
29 this section shall be compensated in accordance with the provisions of  
30 subdivision five of section one hundred eighty-seven of this article.

31 § 8. Section 187 of the correction law is amended by adding a new  
32 subdivision 5 to read as follows:

33 5. Notwithstanding any provision of law, rule or regulation to the  
34 contrary, no incarcerated individual shall be compensated an amount that  
35 is less than three dollars an hour for work performed or work for which  
36 a wage is paid. As used in this subdivision, "work for which a wage is  
37 paid" includes any task assigned to an incarcerated individual for which  
38 a wage would have been due except for their status as an incarcerated  
39 individual.

40 § 9. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after  
41 it shall have become a law. Effective immediately the addition, amend-  
42 ment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implemen-  
43 tation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and  
44 completed on or before such date.