STATE OF NEW YORK

2119--A

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 15, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. WEPRIN, SHRESTHA, EPSTEIN, ANDERSON, COOK, SIMONE, SAYEGH, ALVAREZ, JACOBSON, ZACCARO, STECK, GONZALEZ-ROJAS, RAGA, KELLES, SIMON, BORES, MEEKS, LEVENBERG, DAVILA, GIBBS, REYES, MAMDANI, TAPIA, SHIMSKY, BURDICK, R. CARROLL, CLARK, RIVERA, GALLAGHER -- read once and referred to the Committee on Correction -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the correction law, in relation to who may visit local correctional facilities

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

Section 1. Section 500-j of the correction law, as amended by chapter 291 of the laws of 2009, is amended to read as follows:

§ 500-j. Who may visit local correctional facilities. **1.** The following persons **and their accompanying staff** may visit**,** at **their** pleasure**,** all local correctional facilities: The governor [~~and~~]**,** lieutenant-governor, secretary of state, comptroller [~~and~~]**,** attorney-general, members of the legislature, judges of the court of appeals, justices of the supreme court [~~and~~]**,** county judges, **and** district attorneys [~~and every~~]**.**

2. The following persons and their accompanying staff may visit, at their pleasure, the local correctional facilities located in the county or city of their jurisdiction: the chief executive officer of a county, members of a county legislative body, mayor of the city of New York, New York city public advocate, New York city comptroller, and members of the New York city council.

3. Every clergyman or minister, as such terms are defined in section two of the religious corporations law, [~~having~~] **may visit, at their pleasure, the local correctional facilities located in the county or city of which they have** charge of a congregation [~~in the county in which such facility is located~~].

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

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4. No other person not otherwise authorized by law shall be permitted to enter the rooms of a local correctional facility in which convicts are confined, unless under such regulations as the sheriff of the county, or in counties within the city of New York, the commissioner of correction of such city, or in the county of Westchester, the commissioner of correction of such county shall prescribe.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.