STATE OF NEW YORK

720

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

(Prefiled)

January 8, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. GIBBS, SHIMSKY, FORREST, TAYLOR, EPSTEIN, WEPRIN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the criminal procedure law, in relation to youthful offender determinations

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

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 720.20 of the criminal procedure law, as amended by chapter 652 of the laws of 1974, is amended to read as follows:

1. Upon conviction of an eligible youth, the court must order a pre-sentence investigation of the defendant. After receipt of a written report of the investigation and at the time of pronouncing sentence the court must determine whether or not the eligible youth is a youthful offender. Such determination shall be in accordance with the following criteria:

(a) If in the opinion of the court the interest of justice would be served by relieving the eligible youth from the onus of a criminal record and by not imposing an indeterminate term of imprisonment of more than four years, the court may, in its discretion, find the eligible youth is a youthful offender; and

(b) Where the conviction is [~~had in a local criminal court and~~] **for a misdemeanor and provided** the eligible youth had not prior to commencement of trial or entry of a plea of guilty been convicted of a crime or found a youthful offender, the court must find [~~he~~] **such eligible youth** is a youthful offender.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately and apply to criminal convictions of eligible youths entered into on and after such date.

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

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