
ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 2194

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2009 Regular Session

By Representative Appleton; by request of Department of Corrections

Read first time 02/12/09. Referred to Committee on Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to extraordinary medical placement for offenders;
2 amending RCW 9.94A.728; and providing an effective date.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 9.94A.728 and 2008 c 231 s 34 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 No person serving a sentence imposed pursuant to this chapter and
7 committed to the custody of the department shall leave the confines of
8 the correctional facility or be released prior to the expiration of the
9 sentence except as follows:

10 (1) Except as otherwise provided for in subsection (2) of this
11 section, the term of the sentence of an offender committed to a
12 correctional facility operated by the department may be reduced by
13 earned release time in accordance with procedures that shall be
14 developed and promulgated by the correctional agency having
15 jurisdiction in which the offender is confined. The earned release
16 time shall be for good behavior and good performance, as determined by
17 the correctional agency having jurisdiction. The correctional agency
18 shall not credit the offender with earned release credits in advance of
19 the offender actually earning the credits. Any program established

1 pursuant to this section shall allow an offender to earn early release
2 credits for presentence incarceration. If an offender is transferred
3 from a county jail to the department, the administrator of a county
4 jail facility shall certify to the department the amount of time spent
5 in custody at the facility and the amount of earned release time. An
6 offender who has been convicted of a felony committed after July 23,
7 1995, that involves any applicable deadly weapon enhancements under RCW
8 9.94A.533 (3) or (4), or both, shall not receive any good time credits
9 or earned release time for that portion of his or her sentence that
10 results from any deadly weapon enhancements.

11 (a) In the case of an offender convicted of a serious violent
12 offense, or a sex offense that is a class A felony, committed on or
13 after July 1, 1990, and before July 1, 2003, the aggregate earned
14 release time may not exceed fifteen percent of the sentence. In the
15 case of an offender convicted of a serious violent offense, or a sex
16 offense that is a class A felony, committed on or after July 1, 2003,
17 the aggregate earned release time may not exceed ten percent of the
18 sentence.

19 (b)(i) In the case of an offender who qualifies under (b)(ii) of
20 this subsection, the aggregate earned release time may not exceed fifty
21 percent of the sentence.

22 (ii) An offender is qualified to earn up to fifty percent of
23 aggregate earned release time under this subsection (1)(b) if he or
24 she:

25 (A) Is classified in one of the two lowest risk categories under
26 (b)(iii) of this subsection;

27 (B) Is not confined pursuant to a sentence for:

28 (I) A sex offense;

29 (II) A violent offense;

30 (III) A crime against persons as defined in RCW 9.94A.411;

31 (IV) A felony that is domestic violence as defined in RCW
32 10.99.020;

33 (V) A violation of RCW 9A.52.025 (residential burglary);

34 (VI) A violation of, or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to
35 violate, RCW 69.50.401 by manufacture or delivery or possession with
36 intent to deliver methamphetamine; or

37 (VII) A violation of, or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to

1 violate, RCW 69.50.406 (delivery of a controlled substance to a minor);
2 (C) Has no prior conviction for:
3 (I) A sex offense;
4 (II) A violent offense;
5 (III) A crime against persons as defined in RCW 9.94A.411;
6 (IV) A felony that is domestic violence as defined in RCW
7 10.99.020;
8 (V) A violation of RCW 9A.52.025 (residential burglary);
9 (VI) A violation of, or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to
10 violate, RCW 69.50.401 by manufacture or delivery or possession with
11 intent to deliver methamphetamine; or
12 (VII) A violation of, or an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to
13 violate, RCW 69.50.406 (delivery of a controlled substance to a minor);
14 (D) Participates in programming or activities as directed by the
15 offender's individual reentry plan as provided under RCW 72.09.270 to
16 the extent that such programming or activities are made available by
17 the department; and
18 (E) Has not committed a new felony after July 22, 2007, while under
19 community custody.
20 (iii) For purposes of determining an offender's eligibility under
21 this subsection (1)(b), the department shall perform a risk assessment
22 of every offender committed to a correctional facility operated by the
23 department who has no current or prior conviction for a sex offense, a
24 violent offense, a crime against persons as defined in RCW 9.94A.411,
25 a felony that is domestic violence as defined in RCW 10.99.020, a
26 violation of RCW 9A.52.025 (residential burglary), a violation of, or
27 an attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to violate, RCW 69.50.401 by
28 manufacture or delivery or possession with intent to deliver
29 methamphetamine, or a violation of, or an attempt, solicitation, or
30 conspiracy to violate, RCW 69.50.406 (delivery of a controlled
31 substance to a minor). The department must classify each assessed
32 offender in one of four risk categories between highest and lowest
33 risk.
34 (iv) The department shall recalculate the earned release time and
35 reschedule the expected release dates for each qualified offender under
36 this subsection (1)(b).
37 (v) This subsection (1)(b) applies retroactively to eligible

1 offenders serving terms of total confinement in a state correctional
2 facility as of July 1, 2003.

3 (vi) This subsection (1)(b) does not apply to offenders convicted
4 after July 1, 2010.

5 (c) In no other case shall the aggregate earned release time exceed
6 one-third of the total sentence;

7 (2)(a) A person convicted of a sex offense, a violent offense, any
8 crime against persons under RCW 9.94A.411(2), or a felony offense under
9 chapter 69.50 or 69.52 RCW, may become eligible, in accordance with a
10 program developed by the department, for transfer to community custody
11 in lieu of earned release time pursuant to subsection (1) of this
12 section;

13 (b) The department shall, as a part of its program for release to
14 the community in lieu of earned release, require the offender to
15 propose a release plan that includes an approved residence and living
16 arrangement. All offenders with community custody terms eligible for
17 release to community custody in lieu of earned release shall provide an
18 approved residence and living arrangement prior to release to the
19 community;

20 (c) The department may deny transfer to community custody in lieu
21 of earned release time pursuant to subsection (1) of this section if
22 the department determines an offender's release plan, including
23 proposed residence location and living arrangements, may violate the
24 conditions of the sentence or conditions of supervision, place the
25 offender at risk to violate the conditions of the sentence, place the
26 offender at risk to reoffend, or present a risk to victim safety or
27 community safety. The department's authority under this section is
28 independent of any court-ordered condition of sentence or statutory
29 provision regarding conditions for community custody;

30 (d) If the department denies transfer to community custody in lieu
31 of earned early release pursuant to (c) of this subsection, the
32 department may transfer an offender to partial confinement in lieu of
33 earned early release up to three months. The three months in partial
34 confinement is in addition to that portion of the offender's term of
35 confinement that may be served in partial confinement as provided in
36 this section;

37 (e) An offender serving a term of confinement imposed under RCW

1 9.94A.670(5)(a) is not eligible for earned release credits under this
2 section;

3 (3) An offender may leave a correctional facility pursuant to an
4 authorized furlough or leave of absence. In addition, offenders may
5 leave a correctional facility when in the custody of a corrections
6 officer or officers;

7 (4)(a) The secretary may authorize an extraordinary medical
8 placement for an offender when all of the following conditions exist:

9 (i) The offender has a medical condition that is serious (~~enough~~)
10 and is expected to require costly care or treatment;

11 (ii) The offender poses a low risk to the community (~~because he or~~
12 ~~she is physically incapacitated due to age or the medical condition~~);
13 and

14 (iii) It is expected that granting the extraordinary medical
15 placement will result in a cost savings to the state.

16 (b) An offender sentenced to death or to life imprisonment without
17 the possibility of release or parole is not eligible for an
18 extraordinary medical placement.

19 (c) The secretary shall require electronic monitoring for all
20 offenders in extraordinary medical placement unless the electronic
21 monitoring equipment interferes with the function of the offender's
22 medical equipment or results in the loss of funding for the offender's
23 medical care, in which case, an alternative type of monitoring shall be
24 utilized. The secretary shall specify who shall provide the monitoring
25 services and the terms under which the monitoring shall be performed.

26 (d) The secretary may revoke an extraordinary medical placement
27 under this subsection at any time;

28 (5) The governor, upon recommendation from the clemency and pardons
29 board, may grant an extraordinary release for reasons of serious health
30 problems, senility, advanced age, extraordinary meritorious acts, or
31 other extraordinary circumstances;

32 (6) No more than the final six months of the offender's term of
33 confinement may be served in partial confinement designed to aid the
34 offender in finding work and reestablishing himself or herself in the
35 community. This is in addition to that period of earned early release
36 time that may be exchanged for partial confinement pursuant to
37 subsection (2)(d) of this section;

38 (7) The governor may pardon any offender;

1 (8) The department may release an offender from confinement any
2 time within ten days before a release date calculated under this
3 section;

4 (9) An offender may leave a correctional facility prior to
5 completion of his or her sentence if the sentence has been reduced as
6 provided in RCW 9.94A.870; and

7 (10) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, an
8 offender sentenced for a felony crime listed in RCW 9.94A.540 as
9 subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of total confinement shall not
10 be released from total confinement before the completion of the listed
11 mandatory minimum sentence for that felony crime of conviction unless
12 allowed under RCW 9.94A.540, however persistent offenders are not
13 eligible for extraordinary medical placement.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act takes effect August 1, 2009.

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