H-1748.1

SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1274

State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

By House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Stearns, Hackney, Doglio, Ramel, Reed, Ormsby, Parshley, Pollet, Macri, Simmons, and Hill)

READ FIRST TIME 02/28/25.

AN ACT Relating to retroactively applying the requirement to exclude certain juvenile convictions from an offender score regardless of the date of the offense; adding a new section to chapter 9.94A RCW; and creating new sections.

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

6 NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. (1) The legislature finds that, with the 7 eight Washington tribal governments and indigenous support of organizations along with a broad array of other advocates, the 8 legislature passed Engrossed House Bill No. 1324 in 2023 to end the 9 10 practice of assigning "juvenile points" to lengthen state prison 11 sentences. The legislature finds that black, indigenous, and people 12 of color are disproportionately impacted by prior juvenile felony adjudications. The legislature recognizes that the 57 tribes of the 13 14 affiliated tribes of northwest Indians have adopted a resolution 15 urging the legislature to retroactively end the practice of assigning 16 "juvenile points" to lengthen state prison sentences. Additionally, 2024, an intertribal coalition of 23 tribal governments and 17 in 18 indigenous organizations wrote the legislature to support ending this 19 practice retroactively.

20 (2) The legislature acknowledges that historical, 21 intergenerational trauma caused by the mass incarceration of indigenous children and juveniles through Indian boarding schools, where they endured physical and sexual violence, emotional abuse, and the separation and division of indigenous families, continues to deeply affect indigenous people today.

(3) The legislature further finds that the grave racial 5 6 disproportionality within the juvenile legal system has the downstream effect of impacting sentencing ranges in adult court. The 7 legislature recognizes that because of the expansive body of 8 brain development, which 9 scientific research on shows that adolescents' perception, judgment, and decision making differs 10 significantly from that of adults, and based on the need to redress 11 12 the harms of the past, it is sound public policy to make the changes enacted in Engrossed House Bill No. 1324 retroactive. 13

14 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 9.94A 15 RCW to read as follows:

16 (1) Any person sentenced for an offense committed prior to July 17 23, 2023, whose offender score was increased due to any juvenile adjudications that are not scorable under RCW 9.94A.525 as enacted at 18 the time a petition is filed under this section, shall be entitled to 19 20 a resentencing hearing upon the person's petition for relief from sentence to the original sentencing court, provided that: (a) The 21 person is currently incarcerated in total confinement with a release 22 date on the sentence of July 1, 2026, or later; and (b) the person 23 24 meets the requirements in subsection (2) or (3) of this section.

(2) For purposes of subsection (1) of this section, a person
meets the requirements of this subsection (2) if:

27 (a) Until July 1, 2026, the person:

28 (i) Has served at least 80 percent of their sentence; or

29 (ii) Has served at least 20 years of their sentence;

30 (b) After July 1, 2026, the person:

31 (i) Has served at least 60 percent of their sentence; or

32 (ii) Has served 15 years or more of their sentence;

33 (c) After July 1, 2027, the person:

34 (i) Has served at least 40 percent of their sentence; or

35 (ii) Has served at least 10 years of their sentence;

36 (d) After July 1, 2028, the person has served any amount of time 37 on their sentence.

38 (3) A county superior court may hear a petition outside of the39 order established in subsection (2) of this section if the petitioner

1 meets the standard in subsection (1) of this section and the 2 presiding judge of the superior court determines that the county has 3 the capacity to proceed with petitions.

4 (4) The sentencing court shall grant the petition if it finds 5 that the person meets the criteria under subsection (1) of this 6 section and immediately set an expedited date for the resentencing 7 hearing. There is a rebuttable presumption that the petitioner is 8 entitled to be resentenced by the court.

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(a) The court may deny a petition for resentencing only if:

(i) The petitioner has a significant disciplinary record of
serious infractions while incarcerated, including the following
infractions identified in department of corrections policy DOC
460.050: 501, 502, 507, 511, 521, 550, 601, 602, 603, 604, 611, 613,
635, 637, 650, 830, 831, 882, 633, 704, 711. A petitioner's
significant disciplinary record may be overcome by a two-year period
free from serious violations that precedes the petition;

17 (ii) The petitioner has an insignificant record of rehabilitation 18 and programming while incarcerated;

19 (iii) The court determines by a preponderance of the evidence 20 that it is more likely than not that the person will commit new 21 felony criminal law violations if resentenced. In making this 22 determination the court shall consider evidence presented regarding 23 the likelihood of the victim or surviving victims being revictimized.

(b) If the court grants a petitioner's petition for resentencing, 24 25 at the resentencing hearing the court shall sentence the offender as if any juvenile adjudications that are not scorable under RCW 26 9.94A.525 as enacted at the time the petition was filed were not part 27 of the offender score at the time the original sentence was imposed. 28 29 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the soonest allowable release date from total confinement for an individual resentenced under this 30 31 section may be no sooner than six months after the date of the 32 individual's resentencing hearing.

(5) If the court denies a petition under subsection (4)(a) of 33 this section, the petitioner may, upon a showing of a change in 34 circumstances, file a new petition no earlier than three years after 35 36 the date the court denied the previous petition or declined to modify the petitioner's sentence, unless the court authorizes the petitioner 37 to file a new petition at an earlier date. If the court denies the 38 petition, the court shall state the basis for its decision on the 39 40 record. The petitioner may appeal the denial of a petition or an

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order entered pursuant to a resentencing hearing, provided, however, that denying a petition filed pursuant to this section shall not reopen the petitioner's conviction or sentence to any other challenges that would otherwise be barred.

5 (6) When an individual who has been resentenced under this 6 section is within six months of their expected release date from 7 total confinement, the department of corrections will consider the 8 individual reentry plan that has already been created under RCW 9 72.09.270 and is already periodically reviewed and updated under RCW 10 72.09.270.

(7) An incarcerated individual who is eligible to file a petition 11 12 under this section and unable to afford counsel may have counsel appointed, at no cost to the individual, to represent the individual 13 for the petition and proceedings under this section, unless the 14 individual expressly waives the right to counsel after being fully 15 16 advised of this right by the court. Nothing in this subsection 17 creates an entitlement to counsel at the state's expense to petition 18 the sentencing court.

(8) The legislature recognizes the rights that victims, survivors 19 of victims, and witnesses of crimes have when incarcerated people are 20 21 considered for resentencing based on a change in the law. Therefore, 22 it is the intent of the legislature to ensure that victims, survivors of victims, and witnesses of crimes are afforded the opportunity to 23 make a statement that will be considered during a hearing granted 24 25 under this act. Prior to and during a resentencing hearing granted under this act, victims, survivors of victims, and witnesses of the 26 crime for which the person is currently incarcerated have the 27 28 following rights:

(a) To be informed by the prosecuting attorney of the date, time,and place of the resentencing hearing;

31 (b) To present a statement in person or by representation, via 32 audiotape, videotape, or other electronic means, or in writing during 33 the resentencing hearing; and

34 (c) All other rights afforded to victims and survivors of crime35 under the state Constitution and the Revised Code of Washington.

36 (9) The court may consider the impact of the petitioner's release 37 on victims or survivors of the crime for which the petitioner is 38 presently incarcerated, with special consideration given to the 39 impact of release on any victims of sex offenses or domestic violence 40 offenses.

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1 (10) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this 2 specific purpose, the office of crime victims advocacy shall contract 3 with the prosecuting attorneys' offices to offer victim advocacy 4 services for victims impacted by this act. The victim services must 5 include:

6 (a) Legal advocacy to understand the resentencing process and how 7 to exercise their rights;

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(b) Safety planning;

9 (c) Options to participate in a restorative justice program with 10 the petitioner; and

11 (d) Case management to address needs that may arise as a result 12 of resentencing.

(11) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, the office of crime victims advocacy must establish a flexible fund to support victims and survivors of victims impacted by this act. The office may contract for administration of this fund. Uses of the fund may include, but are not limited to:

18 (a) Relocation assistance related to a change in safety planning19 associated with resentencing;

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(b) Traveling to and from court for resentencing hearings; and

(c) Out-of-pocket expenses for psychotherapy associated with the committed offense and the potential resentencing.

(12) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, the office of crime victims advocacy shall contract with an entity with expertise in victim services to provide training for victim advocates embedded within prosecuting attorneys' offices regarding safety planning and other case management services that victims impacted by this act may require.

(13) Any person sentenced on or after the effective date of this section, for an offense committed prior to July 23, 2023, whose offender score would be increased due to any juvenile adjudications that are not scorable under RCW 9.94A.525 at the time of sentencing shall have their offender score calculated based on RCW 9.94A.525 as enacted at the time of sentencing.

35 (14) This section applies retroactively to persons incarcerated 36 on the effective date of this section, regardless of the date of the 37 offense or conviction.

38 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 3. If specific funding for the purposes of 39 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not 1 provided by June 30, 2025, in the omnibus appropriations act, this

2 act is null and void.

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