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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5029**

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**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2025 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Human Services (originally sponsored by Senators C. Wilson, Frame, Hasegawa, Nobles, Saldaña, Trudeau, and Wellman)

READ FIRST TIME 01/23/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to the transportation of individuals released or  
2 discharged from the custody of the department of corrections; and  
3 amending RCW 72.02.100.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 72.02.100 and 2024 c 32 s 1 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (1) Any person serving a sentence for a term of confinement in a  
8 state correctional facility (~~((for convicted felons))~~), pursuant to  
9 court commitment, who is thereafter released upon an order of parole  
10 of the indeterminate sentence review board, or who is discharged from  
11 custody upon expiration of sentence, or who is ordered discharged  
12 from custody by a court of appropriate jurisdiction, shall be  
13 entitled to retain his or her earnings from labor or employment while  
14 in confinement and shall be supplied by the superintendent of the  
15 state correctional facility with suitable and presentable clothing,  
16 the sum of no less than \$40 for subsistence, and transportation by  
17 the (~~((least expensive))~~) method of public transportation (~~((not to  
18 exceed the cost of \$100))~~) to (~~((his or her))~~) the person's place of  
19 residence or the place designated in (~~((his or her))~~) the person's  
20 (~~((parole))~~) reentry plan, or to the place from which committed if such  
21 person is being discharged on expiration of sentence, or discharged

1 from custody by a court of appropriate jurisdiction: PROVIDED, That  
2 up to an additional \$60 may be made available to the parolee for  
3 necessary personal and living expenses upon application to and  
4 approval by such person's community corrections officer. If in the  
5 opinion of the superintendent suitable arrangements have been made to  
6 provide the person to be released with suitable clothing and/or the  
7 expenses of transportation, the superintendent may consent to such  
8 arrangement. The superintendent reserves the right to review and make  
9 a determination whether to approve or deny any transportation  
10 expenses intended for one individual to ensure appropriate use of  
11 state funds and that the request is reasonable. If the superintendent  
12 has reasonable cause to believe that the person to be released has  
13 ample funds, with the exception of earnings from labor or employment  
14 while in confinement, to assume the expenses of clothing,  
15 transportation, or the expenses for which payments made pursuant to  
16 this section or RCW 72.02.110 or any one or more of such expenses,  
17 the person released shall be required to assume such expenses. If the  
18 department of corrections has made arrangements with a partnering  
19 nonprofit organization that will support the individual's reentry  
20 into the community, the department shall make a reasonable effort to  
21 coordinate the timing of the individual's release from the  
22 department's custody, including the timing of transportation to the  
23 person's place of residence or place from which discharged from  
24 custody.

25 (2) (a) The same requirements of subsection (1) of this section  
26 shall apply to any person who is serving a sentence for a term of  
27 confinement in a state correctional facility and is:

28 (i) Transferred to community custody under the supervision of the  
29 department of corrections pursuant to RCW 9.94A.501, or in lieu of  
30 earned release time under RCW 9.94A.729;

31 (ii) Transferred from a department correctional facility to  
32 partial confinement as home detention in the community as part of the  
33 graduated reentry program under RCW 9.94A.733 or the parenting  
34 program under RCW 9.94A.6551;

35 (iii) Transferred from a department correctional facility to  
36 partial confinement in lieu of earned early release under RCW  
37 9.94A.729, or as part of the work release program under chapter 72.65  
38 RCW; or

39 (iv) Conditionally released by the indeterminate sentence review  
40 board with conditions of community custody under the supervision of

1 the department pursuant to RCW 9.95.011, 9.95.420, 9.94A.730, or  
2 10.95.030.

3 (b) The items and arrangements to be supplied by the  
4 superintendent of the state correctional facility under this  
5 subsection must be provided at the moment of the person's transfer  
6 from total confinement to partial confinement, or transfer from total  
7 confinement to community custody.

8 (3)(a) The department of corrections may only provide the funds  
9 for subsistence required by subsection (1) or (2) of this section one  
10 time to any person serving a sentence for a term of confinement in a  
11 state correctional facility.

12 (b) Any funds for subsistence provided to a person under this  
13 section shall not be subject to any deductions required under RCW  
14 72.09.480 or chapter 72.11 RCW.

15 (4)(a) The department of corrections may provide temporary  
16 housing assistance for a person being released from any state  
17 correctional facility through the use of rental vouchers, for a  
18 period not to exceed six months, if the department finds that such  
19 assistance will support the person's release into the community by  
20 preventing housing instability or homelessness. The department's  
21 authority to provide vouchers under this section is independent of  
22 its authority under RCW 9.94A.729; however, a person may not receive  
23 a combined total of rental vouchers in excess of six months for each  
24 release from a state correctional facility.

25 (b) The department shall establish policies for prioritizing  
26 funds available for housing vouchers under this section for persons  
27 at risk of releasing homeless or becoming homeless without assistance  
28 while taking into account risk to reoffend.

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