



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

Raised Bill No. 476

LCO No. 2892



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:
(JUD)

AN ACT CONCERNING VISITATION POLICIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION AND THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS HELD IN TRUST BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION TO PERSONS WHO WERE FORMERLY INCARCERATED.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 18-8100 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Correction shall [not use the provision of
4 voice communication service or any other communication service to
5 persons who are in the custody of the commissioner and confined in a
6 correctional facility to supplant in-person contact visits any such person
7 may be eligible to receive] permit any person who is confined in a
8 correctional facility and housed with the general population of such
9 facility to have not less than three in-person visits per week.

10 (b) (1) [On and after July 1, 2022, the] The commissioner shall provide
11 voice communication service to persons who are in the custody of the
12 commissioner and confined in a correctional facility. The commissioner
13 may supplement such voice communication service with any other

14 communication service, including, but not limited to, video
15 communication and electronic mail services. Any such communication
16 service shall be provided free of charge to such persons and any
17 communication, whether initiated or received through any such service,
18 shall be free of charge to the person initiating or receiving the
19 communication.

20 (2) Each person in the custody of the commissioner and confined in a
21 correctional facility shall be eligible to use the voice communication
22 service described in subdivision (1) of this subsection for at least ninety
23 minutes on each day of such person's confinement, provided the
24 provisions of this subdivision shall not be interpreted to interfere with
25 the standard operations of the facility in which such person is confined.

26 (c) [On and after July 1, 2022, the] The state shall not receive revenue
27 for the provision of any communication service to any person in the
28 custody of the commissioner and confined in a correctional facility.

29 (d) The Commissioner of Correction shall not use the provision of
30 voice communication service or any other communication service to a
31 person who is in the custody of the commissioner and confined in a
32 correctional facility to supplant in-person visits authorized under this
33 section, including any in-person contact visit that such person may be
34 eligible to receive.

35 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) Upon the release of any person
36 from a correctional facility, the Department of Correction shall disburse
37 to such person the remaining balance in such person's Inmate Trust
38 Fund account. The department may make such disbursement to the
39 formerly incarcerated person in the form of cash, a check, debit card or
40 other electronic release card, provided in any case where the
41 department is not informed of the person's release date at least two
42 weeks in advance of such date, the department shall obtain a mailing
43 address from such person prior to, or at the time of, such person's
44 release. Not later than two weeks after such person is released, the

45 department shall mail a disbursement check by United States mail to the
46 mailing address provided by the formerly incarcerated person. In no
47 case may the department assess any fee or charge against the account
48 based on the form used to make the disbursement.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	18-8100
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To prescribe (1) minimal in-person visitation thresholds for persons who are incarcerated, and (2) the process for the transfer of funds held in trust by the Department of Correction to persons who were formerly incarcerated.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]