

Sec. _____. Section 18-85b of the general statutes is amended to read as follows (Effective July 1, 2026):

(a) The Commissioner of Correction shall establish for each person who is incarcerated an account for the deposit of moneys received by such person and shall adopt regulations in accordance with chapter 54 governing the administration of such accounts.

(b) Upon the release or discharge of any person who is incarcerated, any balance remaining in such person's account shall be paid to such person.

(c) If any moneys remain in such account and are unclaimed for a period of [two] three years after the release or discharge of such person, the commissioner shall make reasonable efforts to notify such person at such person's last known address.

(d) If such moneys remain unclaimed after reasonable efforts at notification and the expiration of the dormancy period described in subsection (c) of this section, such moneys shall be deemed abandoned and shall be transferred to the [Correctional General Welfare Fund established pursuant to section 18-85a] nonlapsing account of the Office of the Correction Ombuds established pursuant to section 18-81qq.

(e) The Commissioner of Correction shall provide written notice to the last known address of such person not less than ninety days prior to deeming such funds abandoned for purposes of transfer under subsection (d) of this section.

(f) Any funds transferred pursuant to subsection (d) of this section shall be deposited into a nonlapsing account within the Office of the Correction Ombuds and shall be used exclusively for the purposes set forth in section 18-81qq, including investigation of complaints, systemic review, public reporting, public education and initiatives that directly benefit the welfare of persons who are incarcerated.