



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

***Raised Bill No. 1109***

LCO No. 6501



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:  
(JUD)

***AN ACT CONCERNING SOLITARY CONFINEMENT.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 18-96b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2019*):

3 (a) As used in this section:

4 (1) "Administrative segregation status" means the Department of  
5 Correction's practice of placing an inmate on restrictive housing status  
6 following a determination that such inmate can no longer be safely  
7 managed within the general inmate population of the correctional  
8 facility; and

9 (2) "Restrictive housing status" means the designation of an inmate  
10 by the Department of Correction that provides for closely regulated  
11 management and separation of such inmate from other inmates.

12 (b) The Department of Correction shall publish on its Internet web  
13 site the formula for calculating an inmate's mental health score and a  
14 description of any form and phase of housing employed at any of its

15 correctional facilities for inmates on restrictive housing status.

16 (c) The Department of Correction shall [at least annually] not later  
17 than November 1, 2019, submit to the Criminal Justice Policy and  
18 Planning Division established under section 4-68m a report containing  
19 as aggregated and anonymized the following data for the period of  
20 time since the department last reported under this subsection:

21 (1) The number of inmates on restrictive housing status in this  
22 state's correctional facilities, as of the first day of each of the [twelve]  
23 months [preceding the date of the submission of] covered by the  
24 report. The department shall report and disaggregate such data based  
25 on an inmate's age, gender identity, ethnicity, mental health score as  
26 calculated by the department, if any, and the form and phase of  
27 housing in which such inmate is held on restrictive housing status;

28 (2) The number of inmates on administrative segregation status who  
29 have spent the following cumulative durations of time on  
30 administrative segregation status:

31 (A) One to fifteen days;

32 (B) Sixteen to thirty days;

33 (C) Thirty-one to one hundred eighty days;

34 (D) One hundred eighty-one to three hundred sixty-five days;

35 (E) Three hundred sixty-six to seven hundred thirty days;

36 (F) Seven hundred thirty-one to one thousand ninety-five days;

37 (G) One thousand ninety-six to one thousand four hundred sixty  
38 days;

39 (H) One thousand four hundred sixty-one to one thousand eight  
40 hundred twenty-five days;

41 (I) One thousand eight hundred twenty-six to two thousand one

42 hundred ninety days;

43 (J) Two thousand one hundred ninety-one to two thousand five  
44 hundred fifty-five days;

45 (K) Two thousand five hundred fifty-six to two thousand nine  
46 hundred twenty days;

47 (L) Two thousand nine hundred twenty-one to three thousand two  
48 hundred eighty-five days;

49 (M) Three thousand two hundred eighty-six to three thousand six  
50 hundred fifty days; and

51 (N) More than three thousand six hundred fifty days;

52 (3) For each correctional facility, the number of inmates who, during  
53 the [twelve months preceding the date of the submission of] period of  
54 time covered by the report, spent more than fifteen days, cumulative,  
55 on administrative segregation status. The department shall report and  
56 disaggregate such data based on an inmate's age, gender identity,  
57 ethnicity, mental health score as calculated by the department, if any,  
58 and the form and phase of restricted housing in which such inmate is  
59 held; and

60 (4) Actions taken by the department during the [twelve months  
61 preceding the date of the submission of] period of time covered by the  
62 report to minimize reliance on administrative segregation status and to  
63 mitigate the harmful effects of administrative segregation status on  
64 inmates, staff and the public.

65 (d) [The] On and after October 1, 2019, the department shall not  
66 hold any person [under eighteen years of age] on administrative  
67 segregation status or restrictive housing status.

68 [(e) Not later than January 1, 2019, the Commissioner of Correction  
69 shall study and submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of  
70 section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly

71 having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary regarding the  
72 use and oversight of all forms and phases of housing for inmates on  
73 restrictive housing status.]

74 [(f)] (e) The provisions of subsections (a) to (d), inclusive, of this  
75 section do not apply to any inmate described in subsection (a) of  
76 section 18-10b.

77 [(g)] (f) Within available appropriations, the Department of  
78 Correction shall provide training to employees of the department who  
79 interact with inmates concerning the following:

80 (1) The recognition of symptoms of mental illness;

81 (2) The potential risks and side effects of psychiatric medications;

82 (3) De-escalation techniques for safely managing individuals with  
83 mental illness;

84 (4) Consequences of untreated mental illness;

85 (5) The long and short-term psychological effects of being on  
86 administrative segregation status; and

87 (6) De-escalation and communication techniques to divert inmates  
88 from situations that may lead to the inmate being placed on  
89 administrative segregation status.

90 [(h)] (g) Within available appropriations, the Department of  
91 Correction shall take measures to promote the wellness of employees  
92 of the department who interact with inmates. These measures may  
93 include, but need not be limited to:

94 (1) Employee assistance programs;

95 (2) Peer support programs; and

96 (3) Stress management training.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	18-96b
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***Statement of Purpose:***

To ban the use of solitary confinement in correctional facilities.

*[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.]*