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Legislative Document

No. 1807

H.P. 1277

House of Representatives, April 16, 1997

An Act to Provide for Commitment of Sexually Violent Predators.

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

OSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative PLOWMAN of Hampden. Cosponsored by Representatives: BAKER of Bangor, BODWELL of Brunswick, GERRY of Auburn, MacDOUGALL of North Berwick, MACK of Standish, UNDERWOOD of Oxford, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton.

Be it	t enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
	Sec. 1. 34-B MRSA c. 3, sub-c. VI is enacted to read:
	SUBCHAPTER VI
	SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATORS
<u>§392</u>	21. Definitions
indi	As used in this subchapter, unless the context otherwise cates, the following terms have the following meanings.
serv	1. Agency with jurisdiction. "Agency with jurisdiction" as the agency with authority to direct the release of a person ying a sentence or term of confinement and includes the artment of Corrections and the department.
	2. Committed person. "Committed person" means a person who been committed as a sexually violent predator under this chapter.
	3. Corrections supervisor. "Corrections supervisor" means employee of the Department of Corrections assigned to ervise the case of a committed person.
	4. Less restrictive alternative. "Less restrictive ernative" means court-ordered treatment in a setting that is restrictive than total confinement.
	5. Likely to engage in predatory acts of sexual violence. The sexual violence in predatory acts of sexual violence means it more probable than not that a person will engage in predatory
acts time	s of sexual violence. If the person is not confined at the the petition is filed, likelihood is demonstrated by a
rece	ent overt act of sexual violence.
conc	6. Mental abnormality. "Mental abnormality" means a genital or acquired condition affecting emotional or
	tional capacity that predisposes a person to the commission criminal sexual acts to the extent that the person is a threat
	the health and safety of other persons.
<u>at</u> a	7. Predatory. "Predatory" means engaging in acts directed a person for the primary purpose of victimization.
dist	8. Prosecuting attorney. "Prosecuting attorney" means a crict attorney or the Attorney General.

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9. Recent overt act. "Recent overt act" means an act that has the elements of a sexually violent offense or creates a 2 reasonable fear of a sexually violent offense. 4 10. Secure facility. "Secure facility" means a facility identified by the commissioner as being capable of providing 6 secure confinement, care and treatment of committed persons. 8 11. Sexually violent offense. "Sexually violent offense" 10 means: A. Gross sexual assault that is a Class A or Class B 12 offense under Title 17-A, section 253; 14 B. Murder, felony murder, aggravated assault, stalking, kidnapping, burglary of a residency or criminal restraint 16 that at the time of sentencing for the offense or during proceedings under this subchapter is determined to be 18 sexually motivated; 20 C. Attempt, criminal solicitation or criminal conspiracy to 22 commit an offense specified in paragraph A or B; or 24 D. Any comparable offense under the laws of the United States or another state. 26 12. Sexually violent predator. "Sexually violent predator" means a person who has been convicted of or charged with a 28 sexually violent offense and who suffers from a mental 30 abnormality or personality disorder that makes the person likely to engage in predatory acts of sexual violence if not confined in 32 a secure facility. 34 §3922. Notice to district attorney 36 1. When notice required. When it appears that a person may meet the criteria of a sexually violent predator, the agency with jurisdiction over the person shall refer the person in writing to 38 the district attorney of the district where the person was charged, 3 months before: 40 A. The anticipated release from total confinement of a 42 person who has been convicted of a sexually violent offense; 44 B. The anticipated release from total confinement of a 46 person found to have committed a sexually violent offense as a juvenile; 48 C. Release of a person who has been charged with a sexually 50 violent offense and who has been determined to be

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incompetent to stand trial pursuant to Title 15, chapter 5; 2 or D. Release of a person who has been found not quilty of a 4 sexually violent offense by reason of mental disease or 6 defect. 2. Information required. The agency with jurisdiction 8 shall provide the district attorney with all relevant 10 information, including: A. A complete copy of the institutional records compiled by 12 the Department of Corrections relating to the person and any comparable out-of-state records that are available; 14 B. All records relating to the psychological or psychiatric 16 evaluation and treatment of the person; 18 C. A current record of all prior arrests and convictions, and full police case reports relating to those arrests and 20 convictions; and 22 D. A current mental health evaluation or mental health 24 records review. §3923. Petition 26 28 A prosecuting attorney may file a petition alleging that a person is a sexually violent predator and containing sufficient facts to support the allegation if it appears that the person may 30 be a sexually violent predator and: 32 1. Convicted person. The person was convicted of a sexually violent offense and is about to be released from 34 confinement; 36 2. Juvenile. The person was adjudicated to have committed a juvenile crime involving a sexually violent offense and is 38 about to be released from confinement; 40 3. Incompetent to stand trial. The person was charged with 42 a sexually violent offense and was determined to be incompetent to stand trial and is about to be released or has been released; 44 4. Not quilty by reason of mental disease or defect. The 46 person was found not guilty of a sexually violent offense by reason of mental disease or defect and is about to be released or 48 has been released; or

5. Post-conviction release. The person was convicted of a sexually violent offense, has been released from total confinement and has committed a recent overt act.

<u>§3924. Probable cause hearing; evaluation</u>

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Determination of probable cause. Upon the filing of a
 petition under this subchapter, the judge shall determine whether
 probable cause exists to believe that the person named in the
 petition is a sexually violent predator. If the judge determines
 that probable cause exists, the judge shall direct that the
 person named in the petition be taken into custody by a law
 enforcement officer or by the department.

 Hearing. Within 72 hours after a person is taken into
 custody under subsection 1, the court shall give the person notice of and an opportunity to appear in person at a hearing to
 contest probable cause as to whether the person is a sexually violent predator. At the hearing, the court shall verify the
 person's identity and determine whether probable cause exists to believe that the person is a sexually violent predator.

Evidence. The prosecuting attorney may rely on the
 petition for determination of probable cause. The prosecuting attorney may supplement the information in the petition with
 additional documentary evidence or live testimony.

 28 <u>4. Rights of person charged. At the hearing required by</u> this section, the person alleged to be a sexually violent
 30 predator has the right to:

- 32 <u>A. Be represented by counsel;</u>
- 34 B. Present evidence on the person's behalf;
- 36 <u>C. Cross-examine witnesses who testify against the person;</u> and
- D. View and copy all petitions and reports in the court 40 file.

42 5. Evaluation. If the judge makes a determination of probable cause, the judge shall direct that the person be
44 transferred to an appropriate facility for an evaluation of whether the person is a sexually violent predator. The
46 evaluation must be conducted by a person who is determined to be professionally qualified to conduct the evaluation pursuant to
48 rules adopted by the department. When adopting rules regarding professional qualifications, the department shall consult with

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- the Department of Human Services and the Department of Corrections.
- 6. Confinement. If probable cause is found under this 4 section, the person alleged to be a sexually violent predator may 6 not be released from confinement prior to trial under section 3925.
 - §3925. Trial
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1. Timing. Within 45 days after a determination of probable cause under section 3924, the court shall conduct a 12 trial to determine if the person is a sexually violent predator. The trial may be continued upon the request of either party with 14a showing of good cause or by the court on its own motion when 16 the person alleged to be a sexually violent predator will not be substantially prejudiced.

- 2. Right to counsel. A person alleged to be a sexually violent predator is entitled to the assistance of counsel at all 20 stages of proceedings under this subchapter. If the person is 22 determined to be indigent, the court shall appoint counsel.
- 24 3. Confinement. The person alleged to be a sexually violent predator must be confined in a secure facility for the 26 duration of the trial.

28 4. Right to examination. If a person is subjected to an examination under this subchapter, the person may retain experts or professional persons to perform an examination on the person's 30 behalf. If the person wishes to be examined by a qualified 32 expert or professional person of the person's choice, the examiner may have reasonable access to the person for purposes of 34 the examination and to any relevant medical and psychological records and reports. If a person is indigent, the court shall, 36 upon the person's request, assist the person in obtaining an expert or professional person to perform an examination or 38 participate in the trial on the person's behalf.

- 5. Right to jury. The person, the prosecuting attorney or 40 the judge may demand that the trial be before a 12-person jury. 42 If no demand is made, the trial is before the court.
- §3926. Determination 44
- 46 1. Determination; standard of proof. The court or jury shall determine whether a person is a sexually violent predator. 48 The determination must be made beyond a reasonable doubt. A determination made by a jury must be unanimous.

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 2. Proof of recent overt act. If the person alleged to be
 a sexually violent predator was not in confinement on the date the petition was filed, the State must prove beyond a reasonable
 doubt that the person committed a recent overt act.
 3. Proof of sexual motivation. If the State alleges that

6 **3.** Proof of sexual motivation. If the State alleges that the prior sexually violent offense that forms the basis for the petition for commitment was an act that was sexually motivated, the State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the act was sexually motivated.

12 4. Commitment. If the court or jury determines that the person is a sexually violent predator, the person must be 14 committed to the custody of the department for placement in a secure facility approved by the department for control, care and 16 treatment until such time as the person's mental abnormality or personality disorder has changed so that it is safe to discharge 18 the person or release the person to a less restrictive alternative. If the court orders that the person be committed, 20 the court may order that a corrections supervisor be assigned.

22 5. Release. If the court or jury is not satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that the person is a sexually violent predator.
 24 the court shall direct the person's release.

26 §3927. Persons who were incompetent to stand trial

28 1. Determination on original charge. If the person charged with a sexually violent offense was found incompetent to stand 30 trial and is about to be or has been released and the person's commitment is sought pursuant to this subchapter, the court shall 32 first hear evidence and determine whether the person committed the act or acts originally charged if the original court did not 34 enter a finding prior to dismissal that the person committed the act or acts charged.

2. Procedures. The hearing required by this section must
 38 comply with all the procedures specified in section 3926. In
 addition the rules of evidence applicable in criminal cases
 40 apply, and all constitutional rights available to defendants at
 criminal trials other than the right not to be tried while
 42 incompetent apply.

 44 3. Findings. After hearing evidence on the question of whether the person committed the act or acts originally charged,
 46 the court shall make specific findings on:

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A. Whether the person did commit the act or acts;

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- B. The extent to which the person's incompetence or developmental disability affected the outcome of the original hearing, including its effect upon the ability to consult with and assist counsel and to testify on the person's own behalf, and the extent to which the evidence could be reconstructed without the assistance of the person; and
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- C. The strength of the prosecution's case.
- 4. Effect of determination. If, after the conclusion of
 the hearing on whether the person committed the original act or acts, the court finds beyond a reasonable doubt that the person
 did commit the act or acts charged, the court shall enter a final order and may proceed to consider whether the person should be
 committed pursuant to this subchapter.
- 18 §3928. Place of confinement
- 20 <u>Confinement must be in a secure facility that is appropriate</u> for persons confined as a result of criminal incompetency, except 22 <u>that confinement may be to a county jail or a correctional</u> facility for up to 7 days pending proceedings under this chapter.
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<u>§3929. Annual examination of confined person</u>

- A person committed under this subchapter must be examined at least once each year to determine the person's mental condition. A report of the examination must be submitted to the court that committed the person and must consider whether conditional release to a less restrictive alternative is in the best interest of the person and will adequately protect the community. The person may retain or, if the person is indigent and so requests, the court may appoint a qualified expert or a professional person to examine the person. The expert or professional person must have access to all records concerning the person.
- 38 §3930. Rights of committed person
- 40 1. Legal rights. A person whose liberty is restricted under this subchapter does not forfeit any legal right or suffer
 42 any legal disability as a result of any actions taken under this subchapter except as specifically provided in this subchapter.
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2. Right to care and treatment. A person committed under
 this subchapter has the right to adequate care and individualized
 treatment. The department shall keep records of medical, expert
 and professional care and treatment received by a committed
 person and shall keep copies of all reports of periodic
 examinations made pursuant to this subchapter. Records kept by

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the department under this section must be made available to the 2 committed person, the committed person's attorney, the prosecuting attorney, the court, the protection and advocacy agency designated under Title 5, chapter 511 or an expert or 4 professional person who demonstrates a need for access to the б records.

3. Safeguarding personal property. When a person is taken 8 into custody or transferred to a secure facility pursuant to a 10 petition under this subchapter, the person in charge of the facility shall take reasonable precautions to inventory and safeguard the personal property of the person detained or 12 transferred. A copy of the inventory, signed by the person making it, must be given to the person detained and must be open 14to inspection by any responsible person, subject by conditions 16 imposed by the detained person. For purposes of this subsection, "responsible person" includes the guardian, conservator, 18 attorney, spouse, parent, adult child or adult sibling of the person detained. The facility may not disclose the contents of 20 the inventory to any person other than a responsible person without the consent of the detained person or an order of the 22 court.

4. Seeking release. This subchapter does not prohibit a 24 person who has been committed from exercising any right otherwise available for the purpose of obtaining release from confinement, 26 including the right to petition for a writ of habeas corpus.

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§3931. Petition for release

1. Petition by commissioner. If the commissioner 32 determines that a committed person's mental abnormality or personality disorder has changed so that the person is not likely 34 to engage in predatory acts of sexual violence if conditionally released to a less restrictive alternative or unconditionally discharged, the commissioner shall authorize the person to 36 petition the court for conditional release to a less restrictive 38 alternative or unconditional discharge as follows.

40 A. The petition must be served upon the court and the prosecuting attorney.

- B. The court, upon receipt of the petition for conditional 44release to a less restrictive alternative or unconditional discharge, shall order a hearing within 45 days. 46
- C. The prosecuting attorney shall represent the State and 48 may have the petitioner examined by an expert or professional person of the prosecuting attorney's choice. 50

D. The hearing must be before a jury if requested by either the petitioner or the prosecuting attorney.

E. The burden of proof is on the prosecuting attorney to show beyond a reasonable doubt that the petitioner's mental abnormality or personality disorder remains such that it is not safe to discharge the petitioner and that, if conditionally released to a less restrictive alternative or unconditionally discharged, the petitioner is likely to
 engage in predatory acts of sexual violence.

12 2. Petition by committed person. The committed person may petition the court for conditional release to a less restrictive 14 alternative or unconditional release without the commissioner's approval.

A. The commissioner shall provide the committed person with18written annual notice of the person's right to petition the
court for conditional release to a less restrictive20alternative or unconditional discharge over the
commissioner's objection. The notice must contain a waiver
of rights.

B. The commissioner shall forward the notice and waiver form to the court with the annual report. If the person does not affirmatively waive the right to petition, the court shall set a preliminary hearing to determine whether
 facts exist that warrant a hearing on whether the person's condition has changed so that it is safe for the person to be conditionally released to a less restrictive alternative or to be unconditionally released.

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C. The committed person has the right to have an attorney represent the person at the preliminary hearing required in paragraph B but the person is not entitled to be present at the preliminary hearing.

38 3. Hearing. If the court at the preliminary hearing determines that probable cause exists to believe that the 40 person's mental abnormality or personality disorder has changed so that the person is not likely to engage in predatory acts of 42 sexual violence if conditionally released to a less restrictive alternative or unconditionally discharged, the court shall set a 44 hearing on the issue.

A. At the hearing, the committed person may be present and has the same constitutional protections that are afforded at
 the initial commitment proceeding.

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B. The prosecuting attorney shall represent the State and 2 may request a jury trial and have the committed person evaluated by experts chosen by the State. 4 C. The committed person has the right to have an expert evaluation. The court shall appoint an expert if the person б is indigent and requests an appointment. 8 D. The burden of proof at the hearing is on the State to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the committed person's 10 mental abnormality or personality disorder remains such that the person is likely to engage in predatory acts of sexual 12 violence if conditionally released to a less restrictive 14 alternative or unconditionally discharged. §3932. Court jurisdiction 16 The jurisdiction of the court over a person civilly 18 committed under this subchapter continues until the person is 20 unconditionally discharged. 22 <u>\$3933. Conditional release to less restrictive alternative;</u> proceedings 24 1. Finding. Before the court may enter an order directing conditional release to a less restrictive alternative, the court 26 must find that: 28 A. The person will be treated by a treatment provider who 30 is qualified to provide treatment; 32 B. The treatment provider has presented a specific course of treatment, has agreed to assume responsibility for the 34 treatment, will report progress to the court on a regular basis and will report violations immediately to the 36 department, the court, the prosecuting attorney and the corrections supervisor; 38 C. Housing exists that is sufficiently secure to protect 40 the community, and the person or agency providing housing to the conditionally released person has agreed in writing to 42 accept the person, to provide the level of security required by the department and the court and immediately to report to the court, the prosecuting attorney and the corrections 44 supervisor if the person leaves the housing to which the 46 person has been assigned without authorization; 48The person is willing to comply with the treatment D. provider and all requirements imposed by the treatment 50 provider and the court; and

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- E. The person is willing to comply with supervision requirements imposed by the Department of Corrections.
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2. Decision. The court shall direct as follows.

A. Upon the conclusion of the evidence in a hearing on a8petition for conditional release to a less restrictive
alternative, if the court finds that there is no legally10sufficient evidentiary basis for a reasonable jury to find
that the conditions for release have been met, the court12shall grant a motion by the State for a judgment as a matter
of law on the issue of conditional release to a less14restrictive alternative.

- 16 B. When the issue of conditional release to a less restrictive alternative is submitted to the jury, the court 18 shall instruct the jury to return a verdict in substantially the following form: "Has the State proved beyond a 20 reasonable doubt that the proposed less restrictive alternative is not in the best interest of the respondent or 22 will not adequately protect the community? Answer: Yes or No."
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§3934. Conditional release to less restrictive alternative; judgment; conditions

 1. Judgment. Conditional release to a less restrictive alternative is permitted if the court or jury determines that conditional release to a less restrictive alternative is in the best interest of the person and will adequately protect the community, and the court determines that the minimum conditions set forth in section 3933, subsection 1 have been met.

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2. Conditions for granting release. The court shall impose any additional conditions on release necessary to ensure compliance with treatment and to protect the community. If the court finds that conditions do not exist that will both ensure the person's compliance with treatment and protect the community, the person must be remanded to the custody of the department for control, care and treatment in a secure facility.

3. Service provider other than State. If the service 44 provider designated to provide inpatient or outpatient treatment 45 or to monitor or supervise any other terms and conditions of a 46 person's placement in a less restrictive alternative is other 48 than the department or the Department of Corrections, that 48 service provider must agree in writing to provide the treatment.

50 **4. Conditions of release.** Before authorizing release to a less restrictive alternative, the court shall impose such

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conditions on the person as are necessary to ensure the safety of 2 the community. A copy of the conditions of release must be given to the person and the person's designated service provider. The 4 court shall order the department or the Department of Corrections to investigate the less restrictive alternative and recommend any additional conditions to the court. These conditions include, 6 but are not limited to, the following: 8 A. Specification of residence; 10 B. Prohibition of contact with potential or past victims; 12 C. Prohibition of alcohol or other drug use; 14 D. Participation in a specific course of inpatient or outpatient treatment that may include monitoring by the use 16 of polygraph and plethysmograph; 18 E. Supervision by a corrections supervisor; 20 F. A requirement that the person remain within the State unless the person receives prior authorization from the 22 court to leave the State; and 24 G. Any other conditions that the court determines are in 26 the best interest of the person or others. 28 5. Report by service provider. A service provider designated to provide inpatient or outpatient treatment shall submit monthly, or as otherwise directed by the court, a report 30 stating whether the person is complying with the terms and conditions of the conditional release to a less restrictive 32 alternative. The report must be submitted to the department, the facility from which the person was released, the prosecuting 34 attorney and the person's corrections supervisor. 36 6. Review of release. The release of a person to a less 38 restrictive alternative must be reviewed by the court that released the person no later than one year after the release and annually thereafter until the person is unconditionally 40 discharged. Review may occur in a shorter time or more frequently, if the court, in its discretion on its own motion or 42 on motion of the committed person, the commissioner or the prosecuting attorney determines a shorter review time is 44 desirable. The sole question to be determined by the court is whether the conditional release to a less restrictive alternative 46should be continued. The court in making its determination must 48be aided by the periodic reports filed pursuant to subsection 5 and the opinions of the commissioner and other experts or 50 professional persons.

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§3935. Revocation of conditional release

4	1. Petition. The department, any service provider required
	to submit reports pursuant to section 3934, the prosecuting
6	attorney or the corrections supervisor may petition the court to
	schedule, or the court on its own motion may schedule, an
8	immediate hearing for the purpose of revoking or modifying the
	terms of the person's conditional release to a less restrictive
10	alternative if the petitioner or the court believes the released
	person is not complying with the terms and conditions of the
12	release or is in need of additional care and treatment.
14	2. Apprehension. If the department, the prosecuting
~ ~	attorney, the corrections supervisor or the court, based upon
16	information received, reasonably believes that a conditionally
T 0	released person is not complying with the terms and conditions of
18	the conditional release to a less restrictive alternative, the
10	court or corrections supervisor may order that the conditionally
20	released person be apprehended and taken into custody until a
20	hearing can be scheduled to determine whether the person's
22	conditional release should be revoked or modified. The court
64	must be notified of the person's apprehension before the close of
24	the next judicial day. Both the prosecuting attorney and the
27	conditionally released person may request an immediate mental
26	examination of the conditionally released person. If the
20	conditionally released person is indigent, the court, upon
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20	request, shall assist the person in obtaining a qualified expert
30	or professional person to conduct the examination.
30	3. Hearing. The court, upon receiving notification of the
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34	issue to be determined at the hearing is whether the State has
34	proven by a preponderance of the evidence that the conditionally
26	released person did not comply with the terms and conditions of
36	release. Hearsay evidence is admissible if the court finds that
2.0	it is reliable. At the hearing, the court shall determine
38	whether the person should continue to be conditionally released
4.0	on the same or modified conditions or whether conditional release
40	should be revoked and the person committed to total confinement.
42	\$2026 Deinhungement of dependence!
42	§3936. Reimbursement of department
44	The dependence is responsible for all most called in the
44	The department is responsible for all costs relating to the
16	evaluation and treatment of a person committed to the

- department's custody whether the person is confined to a secure facility or released to a less restrictive alternative. The
 department may require reimbursement of those costs to the extent that the committed person is able to pay.
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§3937. Record check for employees of secure facility

2 The commissioner shall require a criminal record check of employees working at a secure facility where persons are 4 all confined under this subchapter. Both state and federal criminal 6 records must be checked. Fingerprints may be required. The department shall pay the costs of the record check. Information 8 obtained may only be used in making the initial employment decision or a decision to assign an employee to work in a secure 10 facility. 12 §3938. Release of information The commissioner may release any relevant information 14 obtained under this chapter if the commissioner determines that the release is necessary to protect the public. 16 §3939. Notice of conditional release, discharge or escape 18 20 1. Standard notice. At the earliest possible time, and no later than 30 days before conditional release or unconditional discharge, the department shall send written notice of 22 conditional release, unconditional discharge or escape to the 24 following: 26 A. The State Police; 28 B. The local law enforcement agency in the municipality in which the person will reside; 30 C. The sheriff of the county where the person will reside; 32 D. The sheriff of the county where the person was last 34 convicted of a sexually violent offense if the department does not know where the person will reside; and 36 E. If the committed person has escaped, the local law enforcement agency and sheriff for the location in which the 38 committed person resided immediately before commitment as a 40 sexually violent predator or immediately before incarceration for the person's most recent offense. 42 2. Requested notice. The department shall provide notice 44 in the same manner as required under subsection 1 upon the <u>request of:</u> 46 A. A victim of a sexually violent offense or the victim's 48 next of kin if the offense was a homicide;

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B. A witness who testified against the person in commitment 2 proceedings; or C. Any person specified in writing by the prosecuting 4 attorney. 6 3. Confidentiality of request. Information regarding persons requesting notice under subsection 2 and the notice are 8 confidential and may not be disclosed to any person, including 10 the committed person. 4. Recapture. If the person is recaptured, the department 12 shall notify a person receiving notice under this section as soon as possible, but no later than 2 working days after the 14 department learns of the recapture. 16 5. Child. If the person to be notified under this section is under 18 years of age, the notice required by this section 18must be sent to the person with custody of the child. 20 6. Where notice sent. The department shall send the notice required by this section to the last address provided to the 22 department by the person requesting notice. 24 §3940. Escorted leave 26 1. Escorted leave authorized. The person in charge of a facility to which a person is confined under this chapter may 28 grant, subject to approval of the commissioner, an escorted leave 30 of absence to a confined person for the following purposes: 32 A. To go to the bedside of the confined person's spouse or parent or other member of the confined person's immediate 34 family who is seriously ill; 36 To attend the funeral of a member of the confined в. person's immediate family; or 38 C. To receive necessary medical or dental care that is not 40 available in the facility where the person is confined. 42 2. Conditions. A person granted an escorted leave of absence under this section must be under the continuous 44 supervision of an escort. The escort must be a correctional officer or other person approved by the commissioner. The escort 46 must be in visual or auditory contact with the person at all times. Contact may not be aided by any electronic or other

48 device.

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3. Notice. A person may not begin an escorted leave of absence until the commissioner has notified the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction in the area of the person's destination.

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4. Restricted to State. A person granted an escorted leave of absence may not leave the State unless approved by the court.

8 5. Reimbursement of costs. The commissioner may seek reimbursement from the confined person or members of the family 10 of the confined person for the costs of an escorted leave of absence unless the confined person and the confined person's 12 family members are indigent and without resources sufficient to reimburse the State for the costs of the leave of absence.

SUMMARY

18 This bill provides a procedure for the commitment of a person defined as a sexually violent predator if a court finds 20 that the person has a mental abnormality or personality disorder that makes it likely that the person will engage in predatory 22 acts of sexual violence if not confined in a secure facility. Protections are provided to a person subject to commitment. Care 24 and treatment must be provided and the commitment is subject to annual review. Notice of release or discharge is required for victims, witnesses and other persons identified 26 bv the prosecuting attorney. The bill is based on laws in Kansas and Washington. 28

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