

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 102

Date: 3/13/26

MAJORITY

(Filing No. H-849)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
132ND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 67, L.D. 102, "An Act to Notify the Public of Juveniles Who Are Wanted Persons"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Notify the Public of Juveniles That Have Escaped a Department of Corrections Facility and to Direct the Department of Corrections to Study the Further Release of Juvenile Intelligence and Investigative Record Information'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 15 MRSA §3308-A, sub-§4-A is enacted to read:

4-A. Limited dissemination; escaped juveniles. Notwithstanding any provision of this Part or in Title 34-A, section 1216 to the contrary, when a juvenile has escaped from a Department of Corrections facility and there is probable cause to believe that the juvenile presents a serious risk to the juvenile's own safety or to public safety, the Commissioner of Corrections or the commissioner's designee may publicly disclose the following information for the purpose of identifying and apprehending the juvenile:

- A. The juvenile's physical description;**
- B. A photograph of the juvenile;**
- C. Any recent location of the juvenile;**
- D. Any likely location of the juvenile;**
- E. The fact that the Department of Corrections is searching for the juvenile; and**
- F. Instructions for the public not to approach the juvenile, but to report any sightings or relevant information to a criminal justice agency.**

Sec. 2. Department of Corrections to convene working group. The Department of Corrections shall convene a working group to examine best practices for apprehending a juvenile for whom a warrant of arrest has been issued, a juvenile who has

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1 escaped from arrest or a juvenile who has escaped from arrest during transport following
2 arrest.

3 1. The working group's examination shall determine what juvenile intelligence and
4 investigative record information, if any, should be made public to assist in the apprehension
5 of wanted or escaped juveniles. In making this determination, the working group shall
6 consider both the purpose of the Maine Juvenile Code and the potential safety risks to a
7 wanted or escaped juvenile and to the public. If the release of juvenile intelligence and
8 investigative record information is determined appropriate by the working group, the
9 working group shall further determine best methods for a criminal justice agency to petition
10 a court seeking the release of juvenile intelligence and investigative record information to
11 the public to assist in the apprehension of juveniles. For the purposes of this section,
12 "juvenile intelligence and investigative record information" has the same meaning as in the
13 Maine Revised Statutes, Title 15, section 3308-A, subsection 1, paragraph E.

14 2. The Commissioner of Corrections, or the commissioner's designee, shall serve as a
15 member of the working group and shall appoint, at a minimum, the following additional
16 members to the working group:

- 17 A. One member representing a statewide association representing sheriffs;
- 18 B. One member representing a statewide association representing municipal chiefs of
19 police;
- 20 C. One member who is a defense attorney with experience in the juvenile justice
21 system;
- 22 D. One member who is a prosecuting attorney with experience in the juvenile justice
23 system;
- 24 E. One member who is an active or retired judge with experience in the juvenile justice
25 system upon the recommendation of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court;
26 and
- 27 F. One member with experience in law and policy development for juveniles.

28 The Commissioner of Public Safety or the commissioner's designee shall serve as an ex
29 officio member.

30 **Sec. 3. Report.** By January 1, 2027, the Commissioner of Corrections shall submit
31 a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal
32 justice and public safety matters that includes the findings, recommendations and any
33 suggested legislation by the working group under section 2 for apprehending escaped and
34 wanted juveniles. The joint standing committee may report out legislation based on the
35 report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.'

36 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
37 number to read consecutively.

38 **SUMMARY**

39 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, changes the title and
40 replaces the bill. The amendment allows the Commissioner of Corrections, or the
41 commissioner's designee, to publicly disclose certain juvenile information for the purpose
42 of identifying and apprehending a juvenile who has escaped from a Department of

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 67, L.D. 102

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Corrections facility when there is probable cause to believe that the juvenile presents a serious risk to the juvenile's own safety or public safety. The amendment also directs the Department of Corrections to convene a working group to examine best practices for apprehending juveniles for whom a warrant of arrest has been issued, who have escaped from arrest or who have escaped from arrest during transport following arrest. The working group shall submit a report based on the study to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters no later than January 1, 2027. The joint standing committee may report out legislation based on the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED
(See attached)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 102

LR 183(02)

An Act to Notify the Public of Juveniles Who Are Wanted Persons

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-849)

Committee: Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - General Fund

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Any additional costs to the Departments of Corrections and Public Safety associated with convening and serving on the working group can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.