

SENATE BILL NO. 88—COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

(ON BEHALF OF THE JOINT INTERIM STANDING
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY)

PREFILED JANUARY 7, 2025

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to offenders.
(BDR 16-491)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to offenders; requiring the Director of the
Department of Corrections to discharge certain debts
upon the release of an offender from prison; and
providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law requires the Director of the Department of Corrections to take
2 certain actions upon the release of an offender from prison. (NRS 209.511) This bill
3 requires the Director to discharge any outstanding medical debt owed by an
4 offender to the Department upon the release of the offender from prison.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 209.511 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 209.511 1. Before an offender is released from prison by
3 expiration of his or her term of sentence, by pardon or parole, the
4 Director may provide mediation services to the offender and the
5 family members and friends of the offender who provide emotional,
6 psychological and financial support to the offender.
7 2. As soon as practicable after an offender is authorized to
8 apply for enrollment in Medicaid pursuant to NRS 422.272428 or
9 422.27487, the Director shall complete the paperwork for the
10 application if the offender may be eligible for Medicaid:



1 (a) Not more than 90 days before the scheduled release of the
2 offender pursuant to NRS 422.272428; or

3 (b) Immediately upon the scheduled release of the offender
4 pursuant to NRS 422.27487.

5 3. Not later than 3 months before an offender is projected to be
6 released from prison by expiration of his or her term of sentence, by
7 pardon or parole, the Director may, if space is available, provide an
8 eligible offender with one or more evidence-based or promising
9 practice reentry programs to obtain employment, including, without
10 limitation, any programs which may provide bonding for an
11 offender entering the workplace and any organizations which may
12 provide employment or bonding assistance to such a person.

13 4. When an offender is released from prison by expiration of
14 his or her term of sentence, by pardon or by parole, the Director:

15 (a) May furnish the offender with a sum of money not to exceed
16 \$100, the amount to be based upon the offender's economic need as
17 determined by the Director;

18 (b) Shall give the offender notice of the provisions of chapter
19 179C of NRS and NRS 202.357 and 202.360;

20 (c) Shall require the offender to sign an acknowledgment of the
21 notice required in paragraph (b);

22 (d) Shall give the offender notice of the provisions of NRS
23 179.245 and the provisions of NRS 213.090, 213.155 or 213.157, as
24 applicable;

25 (e) Shall provide the offender with a photo identification card
26 issued by the Department and information and reasonable assistance
27 relating to acquiring a valid driver's license or identification card to
28 enable the offender to obtain employment, if the offender:

29 (1) Requests a photo identification card;

30 (2) Requests such information and assistance and is eligible
31 to acquire a valid driver's license or identification card from the
32 Department of Motor Vehicles; or

33 (3) Is not currently in possession of a photo identification
34 card;

35 (f) Shall provide the offender with clothing suitable for
36 reentering society;

37 (g) Shall provide the offender with the cost of transportation to
38 his or her place of residence anywhere within the continental United
39 States, or to the place of his or her conviction;

40 (h) If appropriate, shall release the offender to a facility for
41 transitional living for released offenders that is licensed pursuant to
42 chapter 449 of NRS;

43 (i) Shall require the offender to submit to at least one test for
44 exposure to the human immunodeficiency virus;



1 (j) If the offender is eligible for Medicare, shall complete
2 enrollment application paperwork for the offender; ~~and~~

3 (k) If the offender was receiving a prescribed medication while
4 in custody, shall ensure that the offender is provided with a 30-day
5 supply of any such prescribed medication ~~and~~; and

6 *(l) Shall discharge any outstanding medical debt owed by the*
7 *offender to the Department.*

8 5. The Director shall not provide an offender with a photo
9 identification card pursuant to paragraph (e) of subsection 4 unless
10 the photo identification card clearly indicates whether the Director:

11 (a) Has verified the full legal name and age of the offender by
12 obtaining an original or certified copy of the documents required by
13 the Department of Motor Vehicles pursuant to NRS 483.290 or
14 483.860, as applicable, furnished as proof of the full legal name and
15 age of an applicant for a driver's license or identification card; or

16 (b) Has not verified the full legal name and age of the offender
17 pursuant to paragraph (a).

18 6. The costs authorized or required in paragraphs (a), (e), (f),
19 (g), (i) and (k) of subsection 4 must be paid out of the appropriate
20 account within the State General Fund for the use of the Department
21 as other claims against the State are paid to the extent that the costs
22 have not been paid in accordance with subsection 5 of NRS 209.221
23 and NRS 209.246.

24 7. The Director is encouraged to work with the Nevada
25 Community Re-Entry Task Force established by the Governor
26 pursuant to executive order, or its successor body, if any, to align
27 statewide strategies for the reentry of offenders into the community
28 and the implementation of those strategies.

29 8. *Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the*
30 *existing obligation of an offender to pay restitution to a victim of*
31 *his or her crime.*

32 9. As used in this section:

33 (a) "Eligible offender" means an offender who is:

34 (1) Determined to be eligible for reentry programming based
35 on the Nevada Risk Assessment System instrument, or its successor
36 risk assessment tool; and

37 (2) Enrolled in:

38 (I) Programming services under a reentry program at a
39 correctional facility which has staff designated to provide the
40 services; or

41 (II) A community-based program to assist offenders to
42 reenter the community.

43 (b) "Facility for transitional living for released offenders" has
44 the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0055.



1 (c) “Photo identification card” means a document which
2 includes the name, date of birth and a color picture of the offender.

3 (d) “Promising practice reentry program” means a reentry
4 program that has strong quantitative and qualitative data showing
5 positive outcomes, but does not have sufficient research or
6 replication to support recognition as an evidence-based practice.

7 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2025.

