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SENATE BILL 5029

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Senator C. Wilson Prefiled 12/10/24.

- AN ACT Relating to the transportation of individuals released or discharged from the custody of the department of corrections; and amending RCW 72.02.100.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 72.02.100 and 2024 c 32 s 1 are each amended to read 6 as follows:
 - (1) Any person serving a sentence for a term of confinement in a state correctional facility ((for convicted felons)), pursuant to court commitment, who is thereafter released upon an order of parole of the indeterminate sentence review board, or who is discharged from custody upon expiration of sentence, or who is ordered discharged from custody by a court of appropriate jurisdiction, shall be entitled to retain his or her earnings from labor or employment while in confinement and shall be supplied by the superintendent of the state correctional facility with suitable and presentable clothing, the sum of no less than \$40 for subsistence, and transportation by the ((least expensive)) method of public transportation ((not to exceed the cost of \$100)) to ((his or her)) the person's place of residence or the place designated in ((his or her)) the person's parole plan, or to the place from which committed if such person is being discharged on expiration of sentence, or discharged from

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1 custody by a court of appropriate jurisdiction: PROVIDED, That up to an additional \$60 may be made available to the parolee for necessary 2 3 personal and living expenses upon application to and approval by such person's community corrections officer. If in the opinion of the 4 superintendent suitable arrangements have been made to provide the 5 6 person to be released with suitable clothing and/or the expenses of 7 transportation, the superintendent may consent to such arrangement. If the superintendent has reasonable cause to believe that the person 8 to be released has ample funds, with the exception of earnings from 9 labor or employment while in confinement, to assume the expenses of 10 11 clothing, transportation, or the expenses for which payments made 12 pursuant to this section or RCW 72.02.110 or any one or more of such expenses, the person released shall be required to assume such 13 expenses. If the department of corrections has made arrangements with 14 a partnering nonprofit organization that will support the 15 individual's reentry into the community, the department shall make 16 17 every effort to coordinate the timing of the individual's release from the department's custody, including the timing of transportation 18 19 to the person's place of residence or place from which discharged 20 from custody.

(2) (a) The same requirements of subsection (1) of this section shall apply to any person who is serving a sentence for a term of confinement in a state correctional facility and is:

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- (i) Transferred to community custody under the supervision of the department of corrections pursuant to RCW 9.94A.501, or in lieu of earned release time under RCW 9.94A.729;
- (ii) Transferred from a department correctional facility to partial confinement as home detention in the community as part of the graduated reentry program under RCW 9.94A.733 or the parenting program under RCW 9.94A.6551;
- (iii) Transferred from a department correctional facility to partial confinement in lieu of earned early release under RCW 9.94A.729, or as part of the work release program under chapter 72.65 RCW; or
- (iv) Conditionally released by the indeterminate sentence review board with conditions of community custody under the supervision of the department pursuant to RCW 9.95.011, 9.95.420, 9.94A.730, or 10.95.030.
- 39 (b) The items and arrangements to be supplied by the 40 superintendent of the state correctional facility under this

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subsection must be provided at the moment of the person's transfer from total confinement to partial confinement, or transfer from total confinement to community custody.

- (3) (a) The department of corrections may only provide the funds for subsistence required by subsection (1) or (2) of this section one time to any person serving a sentence for a term of confinement in a state correctional facility.
- (b) Any funds for subsistence provided to a person under this section shall not be subject to any deductions required under RCW 72.09.480 or chapter 72.11 RCW.
- (4) (a) The department of corrections may provide temporary housing assistance for a person being released from any state correctional facility through the use of rental vouchers, for a period not to exceed six months, if the department finds that such assistance will support the person's release into the community by preventing housing instability or homelessness. The department's authority to provide vouchers under this section is independent of its authority under RCW 9.94A.729; however, a person may not receive a combined total of rental vouchers in excess of six months for each release from a state correctional facility.
- 21 (b) The department shall establish policies for prioritizing 22 funds available for housing vouchers under this section for persons 23 at risk of releasing homeless or becoming homeless without assistance 24 while taking into account risk to reoffend.

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