AN ACT CONCERNING REINVESTMENT OF SAVINGS ACHIEVED THROUGH A REDUCTION IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITY POPULATION INTO REENTRY AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES AND PROGRAMS.

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

Section 1. Section 18-81w of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) The Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division within the Office of Policy and Management shall develop and implement a comprehensive reentry strategy that provides a continuum of custody, care and control for offenders who are being supervised in the community, especially those offenders who have been discharged from the custody of the Department of Correction, and assists in maintaining the prison population at or under the authorized bed capacity. The reentry strategy shall support the rights of victims, protect the public and promote the successful transition of offenders from incarceration to the community by (1) maximizing any available period of community supervision for eligible and suitable offenders, (2) identifying and addressing barriers to the successful transition of offenders from
incarceration to the community, (3) ensuring sufficient criminal justice
resources to manage offender caseloads, (4) identifying community-
based supervision, treatment, educational and other services and
programs that are proven to be effective in reducing recidivism among
the population served by such services and programs, and (5)
establishing employment initiatives for offenders through public and
private services and partnerships by reinvesting any savings achieved
through a reduction in prison population.

(b) The success of the reentry strategy shall be measured by: (1) The
rates of recidivism and community revictimization, (2) the number of
inmates eligible for release on parole, transitional supervision,
probation or any other release program, (3) the number of inmates who
make the transition from incarceration to the community in compliance
with a discharge plan, (4) prison bed capacity ratios, (5) the adequacy of
the network of community-based treatment, vocational, educational,
supervision and other services and programs, and (6) the reinvestment
of any savings achieved through a reduction in prison population into
reentry and community-based services and programs, including those
services and programs to address an offender's needs and risks as
determined through an assessment administered under section 3 of this
act.

(c) Not later than February 15, 2008, and annually thereafter, the
Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division within the Office of Policy
and Management shall submit a report, in accordance with the
provisions of section 11-4a, on the success of the reentry strategy based
on the measures set forth in subsection (b) of this section to the joint
standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
matters relating to corrections, public safety and appropriations and the
budgets of state agencies.

Sec. 2. Section 18-81z of the general statutes is repealed and the
following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

The Department of Correction, the Board of Pardons and Paroles and
the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch shall develop
a risk assessment strategy for offenders committed to the custody of the
Commissioner of Correction that will [(1)] utilize a risk assessment tool
that accurately rates an offender's (1) likelihood to recidivate upon
release from custody, and (2) identify the support services and
programs, including those services and programs to address an
offender's needs and risks as determined through an assessment
administered under section 3 of this act that will best position [the] each
individual offender for successful reentry into the community. Such
strategy shall incorporate use of both static and dynamic factors and
utilize a gender-responsive approach that recognizes the unique risks
and needs of female offenders. In the development of such risk
assessment strategy, the department, board and division may partner
with an educational institution that has expertise in criminal justice and
psychiatry to evaluate risk assessment tools and customize a risk
assessment tool to best meet the state's needs. On or before January 1,
[2009] 2022, and annually thereafter, the department, board and division
shall report to the Governor and the joint standing committee of the
General Assembly [on judiciary] relating to corrections, in accordance
with section 11-4a, on the development, implementation and
effectiveness of such strategy.

Sec. 3. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2021) (a) The Department of Correction
shall screen each offender committed to the custody of the
Commissioner of Correction to assess such offender's needs and risks
associated with reentry into the community as part of a reentry plan
developed for such offender. Such assessment shall evaluate the
offender's:

(1) Housing needs and homelessness risk, including, but not limited
to, the offender's homelessness history, family and other supports, prior
tenancy and rental history, income and employment and experience
with conducting housing searches and maintaining a household; and

(2) Mental health and chronic physical health needs and risks and
other medical conditions, provided mental health and physical health
classifications and scores are based on validated screening tools and follow-up assessments by qualified clinical professionals, including those assessments performed at the time that an offender is released on parole.

(b) Information obtained by assessments under subsection (a) of this section shall be considered as part of any referral process of an offender for community-based (1) housing assistance, and (2) behavioral and primary health care services.

(c) Not later than July 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Correction shall report in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to corrections on (1) the number of offenders assessed as having high need for (A) reentry housing assistance, or (B) health or behavioral health services, (2) referred to (A) reentry housing services, (B) a community health worker, or (C) a local mental health authority operated by the state, and (3) results or outcomes associated with any such assistance.

Sec. 4. (Effective July 1, 2021) (a) The sum of two million dollars is appropriated to the Department of Correction, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, for the purpose of contracting with community-based organizations to provide housing-related case management, housing search and navigation, temporary rental assistance and other basic needs for any inmate assessed as needing reentry housing assistance.

(b) The sum of two million dollars is appropriated to the Department of Correction, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, for the purpose of contracting with community-based organizations to provide housing-related case management, housing search and navigation, temporary rental assistance and other basic needs for any inmate assessed as needing reentry housing assistance.

Sec. 5. (Effective July 1, 2021) (a) The sum of five million dollars is
appropriated to the Department of Correction, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, for the purpose of creating an Office of Reentry Supports, which shall use three million dollars to contract with community-based organizations to hire and employ community health workers to help reentering individuals enroll in and maintain connections to primary and behavioral health care services, and shall use two million dollars to hire and employ staff as department reentry case management clinical social workers to support individuals released from incarceration by connecting such individuals to community support systems and ensuring continuity of care as released individuals receive community primary and behavioral health services.

(b) The sum of five million dollars is appropriated to the Department of Correction, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, for the purpose of maintaining an Office of Reentry Supports, which shall use three million dollars to contract with community-based organizations to hire and employ community health workers to help reentering individuals enroll in and maintain connections to primary and behavioral health care services, and shall use two million dollars to hire and employ staff as department reentry case management clinical social workers to support individuals released from incarceration by connecting such individuals to community support systems and ensuring continuity of care as released individuals receive community primary and behavioral health services.

Sec. 6. (Effective July 1, 2021) (a) The sum of fourteen million three hundred twelve thousand seven hundred sixty-nine dollars is appropriated to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, for Forensic Services, four million dollars of which shall be used in order to fund new reentry case management social worker positions within each state-operated local mental health authority, which authority shall work with the Department of Correction to ensure adequate reentry case management capacity within each authority and to refer individuals discharged from the custody of the Commissioner of Correction who are assessed as having high mental health needs to such
authority's reentry case managers in order to coordinate mental health services and other community support systems, and to expand capacity of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services operated sites for the Advanced Supervision Intervention & Support Team program.

(b) The sum of fourteen million four hundred eight thousand five hundred fifty-eight dollars is appropriated to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, for Forensic Services, four million dollars of which shall be used in order to fund reentry case management social worker positions within each state-operated local mental health authority, which authority shall work with the Department of Correction to ensure adequate reentry case management capacity within each authority and to refer individuals discharged from the custody of the Commissioner of Correction who are assessed as having high mental health needs to authority reentry case managers in order to coordinate mental health services and other community support systems, and to expand capacity of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services operated sites for the Advanced Supervision Intervention & Support Team program.

Sec. 7. (Effective July 1, 2021) (a) The sum of forty million five hundred eighty-seven thousand eight hundred ninety-eight dollars is appropriated to the Department of Public Health, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, for Personal Services, four million dollars of which shall be used for the purpose of hiring and training fifty formerly incarcerated community health workers to be embedded in community health centers state-wide, connecting recently-incarcerated patients with health and social services through outreach, educational and advocacy efforts, as modeled by a national, empirically proven transitions model selected by the Commissioner of Public Health.

(b) The sum of forty-one million nine hundred eighty-three thousand seven hundred nineteen dollars is appropriated to the Department of
Public Health, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, for Personal Services, four million dollars of which shall be used for the purpose of maintaining and training a staff of fifty formerly-incarcerated community health workers to be embedded in community health centers state-wide, connecting recently-incarcerated patients with health and social services through outreach, educational and advocacy efforts, as modeled by a national, empirically proven transitions model selected by the Commissioner of Public Health.

Sec. 8. (Effective July 1, 2021) (a) The sum of one hundred twenty-two million five hundred fifty-six thousand four hundred twenty-five dollars is appropriated to the Department of Correction, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, for Inmate Medical Services, fifteen million dollars of which shall be used in order to add an additional one hundred seventy positions to staff health care services for inmates.

(b) The sum of one hundred twenty-four million eight hundred twelve thousand six hundred sixty-five dollars is appropriated to the Department of Correction, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, for Inmate Medical Services, fifteen million dollars of which shall be used in order to maintain positions to staff health care services for inmates.

Sec. 9. (Effective July 1, 2021) (a) The sum of two hundred sixteen million four hundred fifty-one thousand eight hundred fifty-six dollars is appropriated to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, for Personal Expenses, six million dollars of which shall be used to expand the state's mobile crisis intervention services to be available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week in all five mobile crisis regions and to respond to all 911 emergency telephone calls involving acute mental health emergencies and to ensure that mobile crisis intervention services be the default response to such 911 emergency telephone calls.
(b) The sum of two hundred twenty-six million five hundred two thousand eight hundred ninety-two dollars is appropriated to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, for Personal Expenses, six million dollars of which shall be used to support the state's mobile crisis intervention services availability twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week in all five mobile crisis regions and to respond to all 911 emergency telephone calls involving acute mental health emergencies and to ensure that mobile crisis intervention services be the default response to such 911 emergency telephone calls.

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

| Section 1 | July 1, 2021 | 18-81w |
| Sec. 2    | July 1, 2021 | 18-81z |
| Sec. 3    | July 1, 2021 | New section |
| Sec. 4    | July 1, 2021 | New section |
| Sec. 5    | July 1, 2021 | New section |
| Sec. 6    | July 1, 2021 | New section |
| Sec. 7    | July 1, 2021 | New section |
| Sec. 8    | July 1, 2021 | New section |
| Sec. 9    | July 1, 2021 | New section |

**Statement of Purpose:**
To reinvest money saved from the closure of Northern Correctional Institution into reentry and community-based services and programs, including, but not limited to, those concerning housing and behavioral and physical health.

[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.]