## DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

## **Minnesota Rehabilitation & Reinvestment Act**

## HF 1319/ SF 1352 - [DE Author's Amendment]

The Minnesota Rehabilitation and Reinvestment Act (MRRA), included in the Governor's budget, offers smart-on-crime sentencing reforms based on *how people use their time* in prison – not just *how much time* they wait there. It reinvests savings in critical public safety needs and services across Minnesota. The corrections system is in the business of accountability and incentivizing safe behavior, both inside and outside of prisons, which results in safer communities with more people capable of contributing to them.

The proposal has four components:

- **1.** Individualized Rehabilitation Plan. Each person will receive a robust assessment that is used to set concrete, personalized rehabilitation goals, because we know one size does not fit all.
- 2. Earned Release. People can earn earlier release by participating in rehabilitation prescribed by their Plan, demonstrating hard work and accountability. Example activities include substance use disorder treatment, mental health counseling, domestic abuse programming, vocational skills training, and education.
- **3.** Earned Supervision Abatement. Once released, people can again earn a shortened period of community supervision, known as Supervision Abatement, by meeting goals of their release plan and staying compliant with their terms of supervision. Examples of these tailored goals include maintaining employment, chemical health aftercare programming and mental health follow-up counseling, and positive family and community reintegration.
- **4.** Justice Reinvestment Fund. Savings will be reinvested across four areas: victim support services; supervision services; strategic investments in crime prevention and intervention initiatives and correctional programs; and the state's general fund.

## Summary of Bill Sections

Broadly, the DE amendment re-codes the bill and offers better structure with subdivisions.

SECTION	DESCRIPTION
1 – Amends section 244.03 With subdivisions	<ul> <li>Rehabilitative programs for individuals committed to commissioner's authority: <ul> <li>Expands required programming to explicitly include:</li> <li>Substance use disorder treatment programs;</li> <li>Sexual offender treatment programming;</li> <li>Domestic abuse programming;</li> <li>Medical and mental health services;</li> <li>Culturally responsive programming; and</li> <li>Vocational, employment and career, educational, and</li> <li>Other rehabilitative programs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

SECTION	DESCRIPTION
2 – Amends section 244.05, subd. 1b	Supervised release: Clarifies that the term of imprisonment, if reduced by any earned incentive release credit, does not result in lengthening the supervised release term
3 – Adds section 244.40	Codifies the "Minnesota Rehabilitation and Reinvestment Act"
4 – Adds section 244.41	<ul> <li>Adds definitions for MRRA specific use, notably:</li> <li>"Earned incentive release credit" (EIR credits) as early release earned for completing individualized rehabilitation plan objectives, resulting in subtracting that credit from the term of imprisonment (typically 2/3 of executed sentence)</li> <li>"Supervision abatement status" as an end to active supervision without effect on expiration date of executed sentence less any EIR credit</li> <li>"Earned compliance credit" as a 1-month reduction from active supervision for every 2 months of compliance with conditions and goals while on supervised release</li> </ul>
5 – Adds section 244.42 With subdivisions	<ul> <li>Assessment and individualized rehabilitation plan:</li> <li>Directs commissioner to develop comprehensive needs assessment for those with 365 days or more remaining on their fixed sentence after January 1, 2025</li> <li>Requires an individualized rehabilitation plan with goals for every person receiving an assessment, including identified outcomes, identified strengths, and community supports, including victim safety considerations</li> <li>Requires victim notification efforts and opportunity for input , including sharing safety concerns and requests for conditions of confinement or release</li> <li>Requires Commissioner to develop a transition and release plan in consultation with the incarcerated person for those with less than 365 days of term of imprisonment</li> </ul>
6 – Adds section 244.43 With subdivisions and list	<ul> <li>Earned Incentive Release Credit:</li> <li>Requires Commissioner, after consulting with listed stakeholders, to create policy for earning EIR credits, including how to earn it, diminished program capacity, and community- based resource coordination</li> <li>Requires Commissioner to develop policy for addressing systemic and programmatic gender and racial disparities in EIR credits</li> </ul>
7 – Adds section 244.44 With subdivisions	Application of EIR Credits:

SECTION	DESCRIPTION
	<ul> <li>Establishes that EIR credits are subtracted from term of imprisonment and not added to supervised release term, but never reducing term of imprisonment to less than 50% of executed sentence</li> <li>Establishes EIR as distinct from other legislatively authorized release programs</li> </ul>
8 – Adds section 244.45	<b>Exclusions for EIR Eligibility:</b> Individuals serving life sentences or given indeterminate sentences for crimes committed on or before April 30, 1980, or subject to good time are ineligible for EIR credit
9 – Adds section 244.46 With subdivisions	<ul> <li>Earned Compliance Credit and Supervision Abatement Status:</li> <li>Mandates Commissioner create policy for earning compliance credits, requiring that once the time served on active supervision plus compliance credits equal the supervised release term, the person is placed on abatement status</li> <li>Provides that, once on supervision abatement status, if someone violates the conditions of release, the commissioner may return the individual to active supervision with or without modifying conditions of release, including revoking supervised release and returning to confinement</li> <li>Provides that once someone is on supervision abatement status, they will not be required to report to a supervision agent or pay supervision fees, but must obey all laws, report any new criminal charges, and seek written authorization to relocate to another state</li> <li>Establishes that individuals serving life sentences or given indeterminate sentences for crimes committed on or before April 30, 1980, or subject to good time cannot earn compliance credit or be placed on supervision abatement status</li> </ul>
10 – Adds section 244.47	<b>Victim Input:</b> Requires that commissioner must make efforts to notify victims of eligibility, solicit input on concerns about EIR eligibility, safety concerns and requests for conditions of confinement or release, and provide information for a local victim agency serving the jurisdiction of release
11 – Adds section 244.48	Victim Notification: Establishes that the Commissioner must fulfill any other statutory victim notification requirements
12 – Adds section 244.49	<b>Interstate Compact:</b> Authorizes eligibility for supervision abatement status to individuals serving Minnesota sentences in other states under the Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision

SECTION	DESCRIPTION
13 – Adds section 244.50	<ul> <li>Reallocation of Earned Incentive Release Savings:</li> <li>Establishes reallocation revenue account</li> <li>Requires MMB to certify any savings from prior fiscal year</li> <li>Requires savings to be transferred to reallocation revenue account</li> <li>Prescribes that any savings resulting from EIR (based on reduction in incarcerated days), shall be distributed as follows: <ul> <li>25% for crime victim services</li> <li>25% for supervised release and intensive supervision services</li> <li>25% for grants to community-based services supporting criminal justice involved individuals and those at risk of being involved, and for correctional facility programming</li> <li>25% to the general fund</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
14 – Adds section 244.51	<ul> <li>Report:</li> <li>Creates reporting obligations for DOC to legislature and partners, including: <ul> <li>Program development and status, challenges, strategies, disparities, and mechanism for projecting future savings</li> <li>Information, metrics, and demographic data on those granted EIR and those eligible but for whom EIR was unearned or denied</li> <li>Information, metrics, and demographic data on those who earned supervision abatement status, those ineligible, and those eligible but for whom supervision abatement status was unearned or denied</li> <li>Information, metrics, and demographic data deemed ineligible for EIR credits and supervision abatement</li> <li>Aggregate information on victim input submissions, services, and referrals</li> </ul> </li> <li>Requires that feedback must be submitted from victim coalitions on operational concerns related to EIR and supervision abatement status</li> <li>Requires DOC to perform regular evaluations of EIR and supervision abatement and publish findings on DOC website and in annual report</li> </ul>

For additional information or questions, please contact Emily Lefholz, Legislative Director for the DOC at <u>emily.lefholz@state.mn.us</u> or Amy Lauricella, Policy Director for the DOC at <u>amy.lauricella@state.mn.us</u>.