



Legislation Text

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Int. No. 1023-A

By Council Members Gutiérrez, Louis, Nurse, Restler, Hanif, Cabán, Rivera, Williams, Banks, Farías, Sanchez, Brannan, Won, De La Rosa and Mealy

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the department of correction to establish and operate an online scheduling system for visits to incarcerated persons

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 1 of title 9 of the administrative code is amended by adding a new section 9-170 to read as follows:

§ 9-170 Online visitation scheduling system.

a. The department, in consultation with the department of information technology and telecommunications, shall establish and operate an online system for scheduling in person visits and tele-visits with incarcerated persons in the custody of the department, provided the department shall not require the use of such system to visit an incarcerated person in person at a facility of the department. Such online system shall be accessible using computers and mobile devices and shall include, but need not be limited to:

1. The ability for a person to request a date and time to visit an incarcerated person and, following approval by the department of a date and time, to reserve such date and time;

2. The ability for a person who has used such system to schedule a visit with an incarcerated person to cancel such visit; and

3. The ability for the department to notify a person who has used such system to schedule a visit with an incarcerated person that such visit must be canceled, provided that any such notification shall be made as soon

as practicable after the department becomes aware of the circumstances requiring such cancellation.

b. A person who has used the online system to reserve a date and time for a visit with an incarcerated person and who arrives at a facility after such time may visit such incarcerated person at a later time on such date where practicable considering factors including, but not limited to, the presence of other visitors, staff availability and compliance with applicable minimum standards of the board of correction set forth in chapter 1 of title 40 of the rules of the city of New York.

c. The department shall limit access to information collected through the online system required by this section, in accordance with section 23-1202.

d. A person who has used the online system to request a date and time for a visit with an incarcerated person and is not approved by the department to reserve such date and time shall receive the reason for which the department did not approve the request.

e. By January 30, 2028, and annually thereafter, the department shall provide to the council and publish on its website a report regarding participation in the online scheduling system for visits for the previous calendar year. Such report shall include the following information:

1. The number of people who used the online scheduling system to reserve a date and time to visit an incarcerated individual and were approved by the department for such visit;

2. The number of people who visited an incarcerated individual and did not use the online scheduling system;

3. The number of complaints the department received regarding the online scheduling system for visits; and

4. The number of individuals who used the online system to request a date and time for a visit with an

incarcerated person and were not approved by the department for such visit, disaggregated by the reason the request was not approved.

§ 2. This local law takes effect 2 years after it becomes a law.

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