

# HOUSE BILL 22

E5

6lr0677

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Delegates Schindler, Behler, Crutchfield, Foley, Hill, Kaufman, Terrasa, and Wu**

Requested: August 11, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Correctional Services – Incarcerated Individuals – Identification Cards and**  
3 **Driver’s Licenses**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring a certain correctional facility to return a certain identification  
5 card or driver’s license to a certain incarcerated individual at a certain time under  
6 certain circumstances; requiring the Commissioner of Correction and the managing  
7 official of a local correctional facility to provide certain forms to and work with a  
8 certain incarcerated individual under certain circumstances to ensure a certain  
9 identification card or driver’s license is available to the incarcerated individual at  
10 the time of the incarcerated individual’s release from confinement; and generally  
11 relating to incarcerated individuals.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article – Correctional Services  
14 Section 9–609.1  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2025 Replacement Volume)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Correctional Services**

20 9–609.1.

21 (a) (1) The Commissioner of Correction shall issue an identification card to an  
22 incarcerated individual before release from confinement in a State correctional facility.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2) The identification card issued under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall meet the requirements [for secondary identification for the purpose of an identification card issued by the Motor Vehicle Administration under § 12-301] **SET FORTH IN § 12-301.1** of the Transportation Article.

(b) (1) (i) Except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection, on taking custody of an incarcerated individual sentenced to the Division of Correction, the Commissioner of Correction shall begin the process of obtaining the incarcerated individual's birth certificate.

(ii) If an incarcerated individual's birth certificate is obtained under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, the Commissioner of Correction shall provide the incarcerated individual with the birth certificate before release from confinement in a State correctional facility.

(2) (i) Except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection, the Commissioner of Correction shall apply to the Social Security Administration to obtain an incarcerated individual's Social Security card:

1. at the earliest date possible in accordance with any memorandum of understanding between the Division of Correction and the Social Security Administration providing for the issuance of incarcerated individual Social Security cards; or

2. as soon as is practicable.

(ii) If an incarcerated individual's Social Security card is obtained under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, the Commissioner of Correction shall provide the incarcerated individual with the Social Security card before release from confinement in a State correctional facility.

(3) The Commissioner of Correction may not obtain a document under paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection unless the incarcerated individual consents in writing to the Commissioner of Correction obtaining the document.

**(C) IF AN INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL ENTERED A STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY OR A LOCAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY WITH A VALID PHOTO IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUED BY THE MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION UNDER § 12-301 OF THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE OR A DRIVER'S LICENSE, THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY SHALL RETURN THE IDENTIFICATION CARD OR DRIVER'S LICENSE TO THE INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL AT OR BEFORE THE TIME OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S RELEASE FROM CONFINEMENT.**

**(D) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, 6 MONTHS BEFORE THE ANTICIPATED RELEASE FROM CONFINEMENT OF AN INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL WHO IS SERVING A SENTENCE OF 1 YEAR OR MORE IN A**

1 STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY OR A LOCAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY, THE  
2 COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTION AND THE MANAGING OFFICIAL OF A LOCAL  
3 CORRECTIONAL FACILITY SHALL PROVIDE THE APPROPRIATE FORMS TO AND WORK  
4 WITH THE INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL TO ENSURE THAT A PHOTO IDENTIFICATION  
5 CARD ISSUED BY THE MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION UNDER § 12-301 OF THE  
6 TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE OR A DRIVER'S LICENSE IS AVAILABLE TO THE  
7 INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL AT THE TIME OF RELEASE FROM CONFINEMENT.

8 (2) PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION MAY BE SATISFIED BY  
9 RETURN OF A VALID IDENTIFICATION CARD OR DRIVER'S LICENSE TO AN  
10 INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.

11 (E) THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED IN A MANNER THAT IN ANY WAY  
12 DELAYS THE RELEASE FROM CONFINEMENT OF AN INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
14 October 1, 2026.