

Media Advisory

... from the Illinois House of Representatives

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Crespo-Sponsored Bill to Prevent Early Prisoner Release Passes Both Houses

Streamwood, IL – In response to the early release of several violent offenders from Illinois penitentiaries, Senate Bill 1013 passed both houses of the Illinois General Assembly on Wednesday and awaits the governor's signature to become law. This bill, co-sponsored by State Representative Fred Crespo (D-Hoffman Estates), is designed to restrict the ability to release convicted prisoners early.

“While the state does need to find a way to save money, releasing convicts, especially violent offenders, from prison before the end of their sentenced term is not the answer,” Crespo said. “The public should trust our criminal justice system, and the early release of violent offenders is a complete breakage of the public trust and something we should prevent in the future at any cost.”

Senate Bill 1013 was inspired by the controversial early release of several dozen violent prisoners from the Illinois prison system, some of whom were quickly arrested again for repeat offenses shortly after their release. If signed into law, the bill will amend the Unified Code of Corrections to prevent prisoners from receiving good credit towards release until they have served at least sixty days of their imposed prison term. It will also require that the Director of Corrections makes a written notification for the reasons a prisoner would receive good credit.

“This bill passed with near unanimous support in both houses of the Illinois General Assembly, and I want to congratulate my colleagues from both sides of the aisle for coming together to rectify this problem,” Crespo said. “When it becomes law, Senate Bill 1013 will prevent the early release of prisoners and ensure residents statewide that our criminal justice system is doing everything in its powers to keep violent offenders off our streets.”

Crespo represents the 44th District, which covers all, or parts of, Streamwood, Hoffman Estates, Hanover Park, Schaumburg, Elgin, and Bartlett. For more information, please contact Rep. Crespo's constituent service office in Streamwood at 630-372-3340.

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