



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB4583

Introduced 2/3/2026, by Rep. Will Guzzardi

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

730 ILCS 5/3-6-9 new

Amends the Unified Code of Corrections. Provides that the Department of Corrections shall ensure all persons under its care are assessed for substance use disorder, as defined in the Substance Use Disorder Act. Provides that this process includes screening and assessment for opioid use disorders. Provides that for a committed person diagnosed with opioid use disorder, the Department shall offer, or facilitate access to, all medication-assisted treatment options deemed appropriate by an authorized health care professional. Provides that the Department shall not impose limitations on the types of medication assisted treatment that may be recommended by an authorized health care professional as part of a treatment plan. Provides that an individual receiving medication-assisted treatment prior to being committed to a Department of Corrections facility shall be entitled to, upon request, continue such treatment in the medication assisted treatment program for any period of time deemed medically necessary by an authorized health care professional. Provides that no person shall be denied participation in medication-assisted treatment program on the basis of a positive drug screening upon entering the Department's custody; nor shall any person receive a disciplinary infraction for such positive drug screen. Provides that no person shall be denied participation in medication-assisted treatment based on prior success or failure of any medication-assisted treatment program. Provides that for each Parole District, the Department shall develop a plan to facilitate access to medication-assisted treatment for persons diagnosed with opioid use disorder in the community following release. Provides that the Department may adopt rules for the implementation of these provisions. Effective January 1, 2027.

LRB104 17044 RLC 30459 b

1 AN ACT concerning criminal law.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Unified Code of Corrections is amended by
5 adding Section 3-6-9 as follows:

6 (730 ILCS 5/3-6-9 new)

7 Sec. 3-6-9. Treatment for committed persons with substance
8 use disorders.

9 (a) The General Assembly finds the followings:

10 (1) The Department of Corrections does not currently
11 have extensive medication-assisted treatment programs
12 readily available to meet the needs of all committed
13 persons with opioid use disorder, despite estimates that
14 more than half of the committed population meets the
15 criteria for having a substance use disorder.

16 (2) Providing timely access to medication-assisted
17 treatment in correctional settings reduces recidivism,
18 overdose risk following release, and improves treatment
19 retention. Withholding evidence-based opioid use disorder
20 treatment increases risk for death during detention and
21 upon release.

22 (3) According to the Department of Human Services, up
23 to 75% of parolees who leave prison without treatment for

1 an identified substance use disorder resume substance use
2 within 3 months of release.

3 (4) Studies demonstrate that in the first 2 weeks
4 after release, the risk of opioid overdose is 40 times
5 higher for those who were incarcerated compared to the
6 general population.

7 (5) It is the stated position of the U.S. Substance
8 Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration that no
9 justification exists for denying access to medications for
10 opioid use disorder because psychosocial services are
11 unavailable or individuals are unwilling to avail
12 themselves of those services.

13 (6) The U.S. Department of Justice has determined that
14 individuals with opioid use disorder are protected under
15 the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

16 (7) In community-based settings, such as opioid
17 treatment programs and primary care facilities,
18 medication-assisted treatment has been proven to reduce
19 overdose deaths and illicit opioid use. Individuals with
20 opioid use disorder living in correctional settings are
21 entitled to the same level of care as those in
22 community-based settings.

23 (b) In alignment with the State of Illinois Overdose
24 Action Plan, the purpose of this Section is to facilitate
25 timely access to medication-assisted treatment options and
26 therapies to all individuals under the care of the Department

1 of Corrections who are diagnosed with opioid use disorder.

2 (c) In this Section:

3 "Authorized health care professional" means a physician
4 licensed to practice medicine in all its branches, a licensed
5 physician assistant with prescriptive authority, a licensed
6 advanced practice registered nurse with prescriptive
7 authority, an advanced practice registered nurse or physician
8 assistant who practices in a hospital, hospital affiliate, or
9 ambulatory surgical treatment center and possesses appropriate
10 clinical privileges in accordance with the Nurse Practice Act,
11 or a pharmacist licensed to practice pharmacy under the
12 Pharmacy Practice Act.

13 "Department" means the Department of Corrections.

14 "Medication-assisted treatment" means the use of U.S. Food
15 and Drug Administration-approved medications, in combination
16 with counseling and behavioral therapies, to provide a whole
17 patient approach to the treatment of substance use disorders.

18 (d) The Department shall ensure all persons under its care
19 are assessed for substance use disorder, as defined in the
20 Substance Use Disorder Act. This process includes screening
21 and assessment for opioid use disorders. For a committed
22 person diagnosed with opioid use disorder, the Department
23 shall offer, or facilitate access to, all medication-assisted
24 treatment options deemed appropriate by an authorized health
25 care professional. The Department shall not impose limitations
26 on the types of medication assisted treatment that may be

1 recommended by an authorized health care professional as part
2 of a treatment plan.

3 (e) An individual receiving medication-assisted treatment
4 prior to being committed to a Department of Corrections
5 facility shall be entitled to, upon request, continue such
6 treatment in the medication assisted treatment program for any
7 period of time deemed medically necessary by an authorized
8 health care professional. No person shall be denied
9 participation in medication-assisted treatment program on the
10 basis of a positive drug screening upon entering the
11 Department's custody; nor shall any person receive a
12 disciplinary infraction for such positive drug screen. No
13 person shall be denied participation in medication-assisted
14 treatment based on prior success or failure of any
15 medication-assisted treatment program.

16 (f) For each Parole District, the Department shall develop
17 a plan to facilitate access to medication-assisted treatment
18 for persons diagnosed with opioid use disorder in the
19 community following release.

20 (g) The Department may adopt rules for the implementation
21 of this Section.

22 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January
23 1, 2027.