

APPROVED

This bill would impose reforms to the practice of segregated confinement in New York State correctional facilities, by limiting the amount of time an incarcerated person can spend in segregated confinement, defining and reducing the number of disciplinary infractions eligible for segregated confinement, and exempting certain vulnerable populations, including the young, elderly, pregnant women, people with disabilities, and individuals with a serious mental illness from segregated confinement.

This legislation builds on reforms undertaken by my administration to reduce the use of segregated confinement that have resulted in a 50% reduction in total number of individuals housed in SHU cells, and a reduction in the number of individuals serving a SHU sanction in a SHU cell by 58%.

In order to protect all incarcerated individuals and the essential workers that staff these facilities, amendments are necessary to ensure that processes are in place to address all possible circumstances where an individual may need to be separated from other incarcerated individuals, including when an incarcerated individual commits multiple violent acts.

Based on the Legislature's agreement to these necessary reforms, this bill is approved.

This bill is approved.

(signed) ANDREW M. CUOMO