TITLE XI - PRISONS AND JAILS

SEC. 191[10]. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Pandemic Prison Response Act".

SEC. 192[11]. EMERGENCY AUTHORITY REGARDING COVID-19.

(a) PURPOSES.—Congress finds the following:

(1) As of the date of introduction of this Act, the novel coronavirus has spread to all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and 7 territories.

(2) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have projected that between 160,000 and 214,000,000 people could be infected by the novel coronavirus in the United States over the course of the pandemic.

(3) Although the United States has less than 5 percent of the world's population, the United States holds approximately 25 percent of the world's prisoners. As of April 3, 2020, there are more than 2,200,000 people incarcerated in the United States' prisons, jails, and detention facilities.

(4) Studies have shown that individuals who are held in close quarters, such as in jail or prison, and who are held for even the age of 14 days or more may have a much greater risk of severe illness from exposure to certain viruses.

(5) According to public health experts, incarcerated individuals are particularly vulnerable to being gravely impacted by the novel coronavirus pandemic because—

(A) they have higher rates of underlying health issues than members of the general public, including higher rates of respiratory illness, heart disease, diabetes, liver disease, HIV infection, cancer, hepatitis, and other conditions that suppress immune response; and

(B) they create conditions and lack of access to hygiene products in prisons make these institutions unusually susceptible to viral pandemics.

(6) The spread of communicable diseases within correctional facilities presents a significant risk to the general public because of the ease with which incarcerated individuals and those who work in correctional facilities may transmit diseases to and from the general public.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED HEALTH CONDITION.—The term "covered health condition" with respect to an individual, means the individual—

(A) is pregnant;

(B) has chronic lung disease or asthma;

(C) has congestive heart failure or coronary artery disease;

(D) has diabetes;

(E) has a hemodialysis condition that weakens the ability to cough or breathe;

(F) has HIV;

(G) has sickle cell anemia;

(H) has cancer; or

(I) has a transplanted immune system.

(2) COVERED INDIVIDUAL.—The term "covered individual"—

(A) means an individual who—

(i) is a juvenile (as defined in section 5031 of title 18, United States Code);

(ii) is 50 years of age or older;

(iii) has a covered health condition; and

(iv) is within 12 months of release from incarceration; and

(B) includes an individual described in subparagraph (A) who is serving a term of imprisonment for an offense committed before November 1, 1987.

(3) NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO A CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019.—The term "national emergency with respect to a coronavirus disease" means—

(A) an emergency involving Federal primary responsibility determined to exist by the President under the section 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5191(b)) with respect to coronavirus disease 2019; or

(B) a national emergency declared by the President under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) with respect to a coronavirus disease 2019.

(c) EXPANSION OF HOME CONFINEMENT AUTHORITY DURING A NATIONAL EMERGENCY.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), beginning on the date on which a national emergency relating to a coronavirus disease is declared and ending on the date that is 30 days after the termination of such national emergency, the Director of the Bureau of Prisons—

(A) notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Director of the Bureau of Prisons shall place a covered individual in home confinement if the covered individual—

(i) is housed at a Federal correctional facility; and

(ii) is within 12 months of release from incarceration; and

(B) includes an individual described in subparagraph (A) who is serving a term of imprisonment for an offense committed before November 1, 1987.

(2) NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO A CORONAVIRUS DISEASE.—The authority of the Director of the Bureau of Prisons under paragraph (1) shall end with respect to a national emergency with respect to a coronavirus disease when the national emergency terminates.

(3) REQUIRED CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN FACTORS BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF PRISONS.—In determining whether to place a covered individual in home confinement under paragraph (1), the Director of the Bureau of Prisons shall consider—

(A) whether the individual's age or medical condition renders them especially vulnerable; and

(B) whether detention will compromise the individual's access to adequate medical treatment, access to medications, or ability to physically consult with counsel and meaningfully prepare a defense.

(d) AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date on which a national emergency relating to a coronavirus disease is declared and ending on the date that is 30 days after the termination of such national emergency, the Director of the Bureau of Prisons may, for a covered individual who is housed at a Federal correctional facility, place the covered individual in home confinement if the Director of the Bureau of Prisons determines that the covered individual is not a threat to any person or the community upon release.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining whether to place a covered individual in home confinement under paragraph (1), the Director of the Bureau of Prisons shall consider the individual's risk of complications from exposure to coronavirus disease, based on the individual's age or medical condition.

(3) LIMITATION.—The Director of the Bureau of Prisons may not place a covered individual in home confinement under paragraph (1) if the Director determines that placing the covered individual in home confinement would result in a significant risk to the safety of the community.

(4) REQUIRED CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN FACTORS BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF PRISONS.—In determining whether to place a covered individual in home confinement under paragraph (1), the Director of the Bureau of Prisons shall consider whether the individual's access to adequate medical treatment, access to medications, or ability to physically consult with counsel and meaningfully prepare a defense.

(e) LAST RESORT.—The Director of the Bureau of Prisons may only place a covered individual in home confinement under subsection (c) or (d) if the Director determines that no other suitable alternative is available, including the use of other authorities under this section or other provisions of law, such as the use of compassionate release for certain prisoners.

(f) EXPANSION OF DEFINITIONS.—In the case that the judicial officer refers the detention of juvenile under clause (ii), the judicial officer shall issue a written detention order that includes—

(1) findings of fact;

(2) the reasons for the detention;

(3) a description of the risk factors identified;

(4) an explanation of why no conditions will reasonably mitigate the risk identified under clause (iii);

(5) a statement that the juvenile is committed to the custody of the Attorney General for placement of the juvenile, access to medications, or ability to in a secure facility; and

(6) a statement certifying that the detention is consistent with State and other publicly available in accordance with the requirement under clause (iii).

(g) SUPPORT FOR EXPANDED RELEASE.—Beginning on the date on which a national emergency relating to a communicable disease is declared and ending on the date that is 30 days after the termination of such national emergency, the Director of the Bureau of Prisons may, for a covered individual who is housed at a Federal correctional facility, provide support to the covered individual to ensure that the covered individual is successful in complying with the requirements of any release agreement.

(h) suspending the requirement that each individual determined to be a risk to that of recidivism, or any other individuals determined to be appropriate by the supervising probation officer, must appear in their probation or parole office.

(i) identifying each individual who have successfully completed one-half the months of supervision and transferring such individuals to administrative supervision, unless the probation officer determines that such transfer—

(1) suspending the requirement that each individual submit a monthly report to the probation officer, supervised release, or parole.

(2) Incarceration. An individual who is granted supervised release, supervision, or supervised release, placement on administrative supervision, or post-release shall be released from the custody of the Bureau of Prisons and placed in the custody of a probation officer for the applicable term of supervised release, supervision, or post-release.

(g) Requirements To Terminate Violations And Certain Mandatory Revocations For Possession Of Controlled Substances.—

(1) REQUIRING USE OF CERTAIN TECHNOLOGY AND PURPOSES RELATED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date on which a national emergency relating to a communicable disease is declared and ending on the date that is 30 days after the termination of such national emergency, the Director of the Bureau of Prisons may, for a covered individual who is housed at a Federal correctional facility, place the covered individual in home confinement if the Director of the Bureau of Prisons determines that the covered individual is not a threat to any person or the community upon release.

(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining whether to place a covered individual in home confinement under subparagraph (A), the Director of the Bureau of Prisons shall consider the individual's risk of complications from exposure to coronavirus disease, based on the individual's age or medical condition.

(C) LIMITATION.—The Director of the Bureau of Prisons may not place a covered individual in home confinement under subparagraph (A) if the Director determines that placing the covered individual in home confinement would result in a significant risk to the safety of the community.

(D) REQUIRED CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN FACTORS BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF PRISONS.—In determining whether to place a covered individual in home confinement under subparagraph (A), the Director of the Bureau of Prisons shall consider whether the individual's access to adequate medical treatment, access to medications, or ability to physically consult with counsel and meaningfully prepare a defense.

(E) LAST RESORT.—The Director of the Bureau of Prisons may only place a covered individual in home confinement under subparagraph (A) or (B) if the Director determines that no other suitable alternative is available, including the use of other authorities under this section or other provisions of law, such as the use of compassionate release for certain prisoners.

(F) EXPANSION OF DEFINITIONS.—In the case that the judicial officer refers the detention of juvenile under clause (ii), the judicial officer shall issue a written detention order that includes—

(i) findings of fact;

(ii) the reasons for the detention;

(iii) a description of the risk factors identified;

(iv) an explanation of why no conditions will reasonably mitigate the risk identified under clause (iii);

(v) a statement that the juvenile is committed to the custody of the Attorney General for placement of the juvenile, access to medications, or ability to in a secure facility; and

(vi) a statement certifying that the detention is consistent with State and other publicly available in accordance with the requirement under clause (iii).

(g) SUPPORT FOR EXPANDED RELEASE.—Beginning on the date on which a national emergency relating to a communicable disease is declared and ending on the date that is 30 days after the termination of such national emergency, the Director of the Bureau of Prisons may, for a covered individual who is housed at a Federal correctional facility, provide support to the covered individual to ensure that the covered individual is successful in complying with the requirements of any release agreement.

(h) suspending the requirement that each individual determined to be a risk