

Senate Children and Family Law Committee

Declan Donahue 271-3324

SB 412, relative to the conditional release of delinquent minors and children in need of services.

Hearing Date: January 15, 2026

Time Opened: 10:00 a.m.

Time Closed: 10:06 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Sullivan and Long

Members of the Committee Absent : Senator Abbas

Bill Analysis: This bill permits the court to retain jurisdiction to hear violations of conditional releases filed during the release in cases involving delinquent minors or children in need of services.

Sponsors:

Sen. Sullivan

Rep. Rice

Rep. Notter

Rep. Hill

Who supports the bill: Senator Victoria Sullivan, Attorney Susan Laurabee

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Senator Victoria Sullivan

- This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services, and amends the definition of conditional release to clarify that as long as the violation is filed within the period of conditional release the court retains jurisdiction to hear the matter and modify the conditions accordingly.
- Attorney Susan Laurabee is here to walk through SB 412 and answer any questions.

Susan Laurabee (Legislative Liaison, Division of Children, Youth and Families) & Marie Noonan (Director, Division of Children, Youth and Families)

- The goal is to provide services and resources for children who need it while promoting responsibility, accountability, and appreciation that actions have consequences.
- Youth may be put on a conditional release term of probationary status while receiving interventions while supervised by a Juvenile Probation Parole Officer.
- Conditional release is 5 I will statements: remain arrest free, abide by all laws and orders of the court, submit to reasonable searches, not possess any weapons,

and abide by an individualized plan for success in the Child Adolescent Needs Assessment.

- Any time in that term of probation, the juvenile shall return to court for violations of their release or change in disposition.
- There have been differing opinions of the justices at the family court level, where a JPPO would file a motion for a violation based on an action of the youth, but the court was unable to hear the case before the end of that probationary period. Then, the court would dismiss the case, stating they have no longer have jurisdiction.
- This bill would give the court the authority to retain jurisdiction over such violations so long as it is filed within the term of conditional release.

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Date Hearing Report completed: January 16, 2026