

HB 3887 Fact Sheet

The Problem: Electronic monitoring is adding to the skyrocketing costs of incarceration for the state and taxpayers by becoming an alternative form of incarceration, not an alternative to incarceration.

HB3887: Responsible Use of Electronic Monitoring

Sponsored by: Rep Carol Ammons

"It feels like they're putting you in positions to fail. This keeps happening."

"Edward" on parole with GPS monitor and house arrest in 2017, speaking of how he got a job but then couldn't get in touch with his parole agent to get permission to leave the house to go to work.

Each year over 2,000 people are on parole from IDOC with electronic monitoring. Most face strict house arrest that limits access to employment, education and other much needed opportunities.

Hundreds of juveniles are presently on electronic monitoring with house arrest, isolating them from the community and placing extra stress on already over-burdened households.

Cook County has the largest pre-trial EM program in the country. Though people awaiting judgement have not been convicted of anything, many spend months on EM with house arrest and receive no credit for time served.

Individuals on electronic monitoring can face daily user fees of up to \$15, plus set up fees of up to \$70 that further add to the already excessive burden of financial obligations in the criminal justice system.

There is no research demonstrating that electronic monitoring makes the public safer, is a responsible use of taxpayer money, or contributes to a reduction in recidivism.

Electronic Monitoring in Illinois: The Solution

The proposed amendment to ILCS 730 would reduce inappropriate use of electronic monitoring, cut user costs, and extend access to employment, education and family/community connections for those on a monitor by:

- Providing credit for time served to people on an electronic monitor awaiting trial.
- Utilizing electronic monitoring to ensure public safety while supporting the user in seeking & maintaining employment, taking part in education and training programs, participating in family, religious and community activities, and seeking and receiving medical or substance abuse treatment.
- Ending the user fees for electronic monitoring programs.
- Eliminating the requirement of a landline phone for participants in electronic monitoring programs.

Electronic monitoring is useful technology but must be applied judiciously & with fiscal responsibility. HB3887 will realign the use of electronic monitoring to its appropriate use to facilitate rehabilitation and save the state money on incarceration costs.

**Sponsored by: Illinois Campaign for Prison Phone Justice
A project of the Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center**