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An Act To Amend Deferred Disposition under the Maine Juvenile Code

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 15 MRSA §3311-A, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 384, §1, is amended to read:

§ 3311-A. Eligibility for deferred disposition

A juvenile who has entered an admission to a juvenile crime that would be a Class C, Class D or Class E crime or a civil offense violation if committed by an adult and who consents in writing to a deferred disposition is eligible for a deferred disposition pursuant to section 3311-B.

Sec. 2. 15 MRSA §3311-B, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 384, §2, is amended to read:

1. Imposition. Following the acceptance of an admission of commission of a juvenile crime for which a juvenile is eligible for a deferred disposition under section 3311-A, the court may order disposition deferred to a date certain or determinable and impose requirements upon the juvenile to be in effect during the period of deferment that are considered by the court to be reasonable and appropriate to meet the purposes of the Maine Juvenile Code. The court-imposed deferment requirements must include a requirement that the juvenile refrain from conduct that would constitute a juvenile crime, crime or civil offense violation. Unless the juvenile crime is one under section 3103, subsection 1, paragraph B or C, the court-imposed deferment requirements may include that the juvenile abide by specific conditional release requirements under supervision by a juvenile community corrections officer. In exchange for the deferred disposition, the juvenile shall abide by the court-imposed deferment requirements. Unless the court orders otherwise, the department deferment requirements are immediately in effect.

Sec. 3. 15 MRSA §3311-B, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 384, §2, is amended to read:

2. Amendment of requirements. During the period of deferment and upon application by the juvenile granted deferred disposition pursuant to subsection 1 or by the attorney for the State or upon the court's own motion, the court may, after a hearing upon notice to the attorney for the State and the juvenile, modify the requirements imposed by the court, add further requirements or relieve the juvenile of any requirement imposed by the court that, in the court's opinion, imposes an unreasonable burden on the juvenile. If the requirements proposed for amendment are conditional release requirements, the juvenile community corrections officer must also receive notice of the hearing. In addition, the juvenile community corrections officer may make an application under this subsection for an amendment of conditional release requirements.

Sec. 4. 15 MRSA §3311-C, sub-§§2 and 6, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 384, §3, are amended to read:

2. Violation of deferment requirement. If during the period of deferment the attorney for the State has probable cause to believe that a juvenile who was granted deferred disposition pursuant to section 3311-B has violated a court-imposed deferment requirement, the attorney for the State may move

the court to terminate the remainder of the period of deferment and impose disposition. Following notice and hearing, if the attorney for the State proves by a preponderance of the evidence that the juvenile has inexcusably failed to comply with a court-imposed deferment requirement, the court may continue the running of the period of deferment with the requirements unchanged, modify the requirements, add further requirements or terminate the running of the period of deferment and conduct a dispositional hearing and impose a disposition authorized for the juvenile crime to which the juvenile entered an admission. If the court finds that the juvenile has not inexcusably failed to comply with a court-imposed deferment requirement, the court may order that the running of the period of deferment continue or, after notice and hearing, take any other action permitted under this chapter. If the alleged violation is of a conditional release requirement, the juvenile community corrections officer must receive notice of the hearing.

6. Warrant for arrest. If during the period of deferment the attorney for the State has probable cause to believe that a juvenile who was granted deferred disposition pursuant to section 3311-B has violated a court-imposed deferment requirement, the attorney for the State may apply for a warrant for the arrest of the juvenile. If the alleged violation is of a conditional release requirement, the juvenile community corrections officer must receive notice of the application. In addition, if the alleged violation is of a conditional release requirement, the provisions of section 3203-A, subsection 9 apply.

SUMMARY

This bill amends the juvenile deferred disposition provisions to make it clear that the deferment requirements may include conditional release supervised by a juvenile community corrections officer. The bill changes the term "civil offense" to "civil violation" in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 15, section 3311-A and section 3311-B, subsection 1 and corrects clerical errors in section 3311-B, subsection 1.