

700A.

(a) The Department of Correction is authorized to establish a "work release" program under which prisoners sentenced to the jurisdiction of [said] *the* Department may be granted the privilege of leaving actual confinement during necessary and reasonable hours for the purpose of working at gainful private or public employment or attending school as part of a work release program [in this State]. Such program may also include, under appropriate conditions, releases for the purpose of seeking such employment.

(b) A prisoner eligible to participate in the "work release" program in accordance with the preceding subsection may make application to the warden or superintendent of the institution in which he is confined for permission to participate in such program. The application shall include a statement by the prisoner that he agrees to abide by all terms and conditions of the particular plan adopted for him by the Commissioner of Correction or his designee if such application is approved, shall state the name and address of the proposed employer, if any, or of the proposed school training program, if any, and shall contain such other information as the Department or the Commissioner may require, *including the prisoner's PRISONER'S agreement to waive his right to contest extradition proceedings.* The warden or superintendent may, in his discretion, recommend such application to the Commissioner. The Commissioner, or, in his absence, his designee may approve, disapprove, or defer action on said recommendation. In the event of approval the Commissioner or his designee shall adopt a "work release plan" for such prisoner which shall contain such terms and conditions as may be necessary and proper; and such plan shall be signed by the prisoner prior to his participation in the program. At any time after approval has been granted, it may be revoked for any reason by the Commissioner.

(b-1) (1) Any prisoner who has participated for at least two (2) months in the work release program as authorized by this section may be granted weekend leave [in this State]; provided, however, that the prisoner shall have the recommendation of his direct supervisor in the work release program.

(2) Final authorization and the terms and conditions for such leave shall be granted only by the Commissioner of Correctional Services *and may be conditioned upon the prisoner's agreement to waive his right to contest extradition proceedings.* A weekend shall consist of a period of time no longer than from 6:00 p.m. Friday to 6:00 p.m. the Sunday immediately following.

(c) The Department shall designate and adopt facilities in the institutions and camps under its jurisdiction for the housing of prisoners granted "work release" privileges. In areas where such facilities are not within reasonable proximity of the place of employment of a prisoner so released, the Department may contract with the proper authorities of political subdivisions of this State for the quartering of such prisoner in suitable local confinement facilities. In the "work release" plan of any prisoner, the Commissioner shall include as a specific term or condition the place where such prisoner is to be confined when not released for the purposes of the "work release" program. If any prisoner released from actual confinement under a "work release" plan shall wilfully fail to return to the