ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

APPENDIX A
SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to *5 ILCS 100/5-30 and 5-40, the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act* and *1 Ill. Adm. Code 220*, the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) held a public hearing and conducted evaluation of all comments received concerning the proposed rulemaking during the first notice period. IDOC did not receive request for a public hearing but nevertheless determined that a public hearing would be beneficial to facilitate the submission of views and comments. A Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed Amendments was made known to the public and posted in the Illinois Register on October 24, 2025, *Illinois Register citation: 49 Ill. Reg. 14146; October 24, 2025, Issue 43*, and successfully held on November 4, 2025. A list of all persons or organizations making comments on the proposed rulemaking was provided on December 2, 2025 (IDOC - GP Public Comments).

Pursuant to 1 Ill Adm. Code 220.600(a)(9), this document is the response of the IDOC to public comments on IDOC's proposed administrative rule, amending the Rights and Privileges (20 Ill. Adm. Code 525). This document serves to summarize the criticisms, suggestions, and comments raised by all interested persons; explain IDOC's analysis of those comments; and notate any changes IDOC will make to the rule after consideration. The actual comments and an updated version of the proposed amended rule described in this document can be found on the Department's website: https://idoc.illinois.gov/aboutus/compliance.html

When IDOC filed the emergency rule in August 2025 and the companion rule in September 2025, the Department anticipated the rule would generate a high level of public interest. To accommodate as many comments as possible, the Department held multiple listening sessions with internal stakeholders (including mailroom staff, investigations staff, and labor unions) and external stakeholders (including the Restore Justice Foundation, the John Howard Association, and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), hosted a public hearing on November 4, 2025, and solicited responses via email and U.S. mail. The Department surveyed the individual in custody population to obtain feedback and comments. The public comment period ended on November 24, 2025, and a total of 4,221 comments were received. These include 576 general public comments (16 oral and 560 written) and 3,665 individuals in custody comments, submitted either in writing or via an electronic survey. Due to confidentiality and security concerns, any individual in custody personal identifiers were removed, and all relevant comments are included within the appendix. The Department has maintained a frequently asked questions (FAQs) posted on the website and provided to the individual in custody population. These FAQs and other internal communications were intended to provide updates to the public and individual in custody population regarding their comments received and questions asked. During review of the individual in custody comments the Department identified several comments unrelated to the rule. These comments were routed to the appropriate party to address. Due to confidentiality and security concerns, any individual in custody personal identifiers were removed, and all relevant comments are included within the appendix. The Department did not edit any comment, and some language may be offensive to

others.

Through review and analysis, IDOC found that majority of the comments made similar points and thus could be grouped into sub-points. For each grouping, IDOC summarized the essence of the points made, so the response would be concise and useful to both the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR) and the public. While some detail may be missing in the summarizing, IDOC reviewed and did take all ideas or arguments into account when re-evaluating the draft rule.

Due to the volume of comments and duplication, responding individually is impossible. This document is a systemic approach by IDOC, to engage in analysis and recommendation of every topic addressed in the thousands of public comments received. This document represents IDOC's answers to statements, recommendations, and questions it heard from the public, as part of the larger conversation related to the administrative rule. For completeness, IDOC provides all comments received at the end of this document.

Evidence and Data Concerns

Comments:

Received from:

The Education Justice Project, the Restore Justice Foundation, PR Reform, Cabrini Green Legal Aid, Mamas Activating Movements for Abolition and Solidarity, Midwest Books to Prisoners, Unitarian Universalists Prison Ministry of Illinois, Catholic Lawyers Guild of Chicago, the Officer of the State Appellate Defender, the Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities (TASC), the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), and the John Howard Association. Comments were also received from members of the general public and individuals in custody.

Summary of Comments:

The Department received hundreds of comments concerning the lack of substantial evidence and data that supports mail being a significant source of contraband coming into the facilities. Several comments stated there is no evidence the proposed rule would be effective in stopping contraband from entering IDOC facilities. The comments included claims of other States, such as Pennsylvania, who have implemented mail scanning procedures but did not see a reduction in drug usage within facilities. Many comments expressed doubt regarding the effectiveness of the proposed changes, speculating that there are more significant sources of contraband, including staff and in-person visits. Multiple public comments, including email, speakers, and individuals in custody, mentioned that it is too early to implement a change to mail scanning, as source data of contraband is not available. In the comments, the public referenced public act 104-0412 and Senate Bill 2201, which require annual reporting of contraband found within IDOC facilities, including where/how it entered the facility.

While reviewing comments, the Department did recognize many comments in support of the rule changes. These comments came from current IDOC staff working in the facilities, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), the Fraternal Order of Police, Illinois Corrections Lodge 263, and individuals in custody. These comments associated the emergency implementation of mail scanning to reducing the amount of contraband entering facilities, creating a safer environment for staff, and a positive impact to the daily lives of individuals in custody. Among the comments provided were the following:

- *"There is no data supporting the idea that paper is a major driver of contraband coming into facilities."*
- *"Require IDOC to provide transparent data before any permanent rule is considered"*
- *"Item 6 in the document IDOC provided says it all: no published reports or studies or data were used in crafting the proposed changes. So, the proposed changes are not fact-based, they are reactionary and based on guesses. IDOC is impacting my life negatively and unnecessarily, again, without having anything factual to base it on."*
- *"The mail changes to the prison mail system will without a doubt make the prison system a lot safer. It'll reduce violence, etc... as a result of staff intercepting drugs brought in through the mail. Just another step of making the prison enviorment [sic] safer. I agree with this changes to ensure the safety of the public, employees, and the inmates."*
- *"It will reduce the amount of drugs coming in, but unless they can find a way to legally digitize the legal mail, the drug laced paper will still come in. I heard people talking and they are going to circumvent the new policy by getting their lawyers to send it in through legal mail."*
- *"I think the mail being scanned will in fact reduce drug use."*

Department Analysis:

The Department reviewed the comments and thoroughly analyzed the concepts and assertions made. IDOC understands the perception that it is acting in the absence of concrete and verifiable data; however, the Department is confident in its understanding of sources of contraband entering the facilities. The Department has reached out to other States and continues to work through their network of partner agencies. While many States have implemented similar security measures for incoming mail, the outcomes within those States are not predictive of the success of IDOC's efforts. Most States do not make their data publicly available, and the best the Department could do was listen to anecdotal evidence from subject matter experts within those State correctional agencies. During this outreach, mail was identified as an overwhelmingly significant source of contraband.

IDOC relied upon several internal and external sources when deciding to implement the emergency rule and pursue the adoption of this subsequent companion rule. As IDOC investigated exposure events, outside agencies were utilized and consulted including Illinois State Police (ISP), Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), local hazardous material response units, local emergency medical services, and Illinois Department of Labor – OSHA. Illinois OSHA thoroughly investigated exposure events at Graham Correctional Center, Menard Correctional Center, and Dixon Correctional center. Illinois OSHA issued hazard alert notices as a result of these investigations. In fact, Illinois OSHA recommended IDOC "[d]evelop a procedure to eliminate

physical correspondence to inmates from entering the facility through electronic scanning or other methods."

The Department, through internal investigations, is confident that mail is a significant source of drug or chemical soaked paper, in facilities; however, it is not the only source. IDOC continues to enforce current administrative directives, such as 05.01.109, "Searches of Persons, Vehicles and Property and Sallyport Operations". These efforts aim to reduce contraband by staff members, vendors, visitors, contractors, or any other person entering or re-entering correctional facilities.

IDOC recognizes that stopping the smuggling of contraband, such as drugs and chemical substances, is only part of the solution; efforts must be made to reduce the demand for these substances within the correctional setting. Drug use is a known public health and safety concern in our communities, and it is no different within prisons. The Department works diligently to treat individuals in custody suffering from substance abuse disorders. These efforts include offering substance abuse treatment services such as Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), and individual and group therapy sessions. IDOC's clinical staff are encouraged and supported to achieve Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC) certification. IDOC and vendor staff provide mental health and comprehensive medical services to assist individuals in reducing dependency on illicit substances and self-medicating. These services include the Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) program. Currently, MOUD treatment focuses on those individuals in custody who started MOUD treatment in the community or in a county jail prior to their commitment to IDOC. The program will expand to assess individuals 90 days prior to their release, to determine who would need MOUD treatment pre- and post-release. Medication will be provided to those who are assessed and identified as being in need.

Department Recommendation:

The Department appreciates the concerns regarding the lack of publicly available data on mail-based contraband. Nonetheless, after reviewing internal security information and operational needs, IDOC has determined that the proposed rule should remain unchanged as it will assist in eliminating contraband through a known source of introduction.

Impact on Family Connection, Mental Health, and Rehabilitation

Comment:

Received from:

Mud Theater Project, Catholic Lawyers Guild of Chicago, She Votes, Families Against Mandatory Minimums (FAMM), R Broken Systems, Mamas Activating Movements for Abolition and Solidarity, Uptown People's Law Center (UPLC), Cabrini Green Legal Aid Office, Cook County Public Defender's Office, John Howard Association, the Restore Justice Foundation, the ACLU, Unitarian Universalist Prison Ministry of Illinois, the general public, and individuals in custody.

Summary of Comments:

The Department received hundreds of comments on the impact removing physical mail would have on individuals in custody. These comments expressed concerns with the sentimentality and tangibility of a physical piece of mail, and the positive impact that has on an individual in custody. Additionally, comments came from friends and families of current or former individuals in custody, as well as from the individual in custody population. Many feel the tangibility of a physical card or letter has a greater impact on an individual's mental health, compared to a digital scan. A large number of comments discussed specifically the sentimentality of drawings and cards from loved ones. An overwhelming number of comments suggested photos be allowed in original form, if they were sent from a reputable source and not from family/friends. The Department listened to speakers, read emails, and reviewed survey comments from individuals in custody that focused on how important connections with the outside world are to successful rehabilitation and mental health. Among the comments provided were the following:

- *"Electronic mail is highly inconvenient for everyone.one more step in the oppresive [sic] life we live now i cant have christmas cards or birthdays...things that hold strong sentimental value.highly disappointed."*
- *"Do not like it. Just having the hardcopy of that letter or card or pictures is sentimental"*
- *"Restricting physical mail that has already been inspected robs people from precious, sentimental items such as handwritten notes, artwork, and photos."*
- *"Mail is essential to maintaining a sense of hope and connection, and restricting it has measurable negative impacts on mental health, behavior, and success when people return home."*
- *"I dont like it. If we can receive books from bookstores etc. We should also be able to receive pictures from Freeprints, Pelipost, etc. As long as the pictures arent coming straight from family & friends."*
- *"There is no permenance to electronic mail. I cant look at my mail whenever i want because someone else controls when and how i access anything on this tablet. Ive been incarcerated for 25 years. Most of my friends and family have passed on to the next lifr. The pieces of mail i recieved from them that i can hold in my hand are priceless, electronic mail takes away that tangible connection i have with them as i feel the impressions of their pen on the paper with my fingers, or smell their perfume on the paper and recall the*

memories of being with them in the past. These are things that keep us connected, and being connected to the outside and those we love is critical to our rehabilitation.

Department Analysis:

Part of IDOC's mission is to operate safe, secure, and humane correctional facilities and to reduce recidivism by offering seamless, efficient services that are geared toward rehabilitation. IDOC understands the value of hope, and nothing provides more hope than connections to family, friends, and community support services.

IDOC is continuously looking for ways to increase an individual's ability to have meaningful access to family members and other members of their support networks, this includes removing barriers such as cost. To support these efforts, the Department has provided increased access to phone calls through the individual in custody's tablets; extending available calling hours to the hours 8 a.m. to 12 a.m. The increase in call times was intentional, understanding individuals are often busy during the day with recreational activities, education and other programming classes. In October 2025, IDOC also announced a new pilot program providing no-cost phone calls to individuals in custody at correctional facilities statewide. Building upon the rollout of a phone dialer application on tablets, this initiative will significantly improve phone access for every individual in custody, allowing individuals to connect with loved ones directly from their own tablet when connected to Wi-Fi. This effort also is centered on the crucial role conversations play in maintaining family connections while supporting rehabilitation.

In efforts to enhance connections with friends and family, as well as support rehabilitative efforts, IDOC continues to evaluate and expand educational and vocational opportunities. This is evidenced by university-level degree programs, advanced-level non-degree programming, career technical education offerings, high school equivalency classes, and preparatory classes. The tablet initiatives have also expanded access to educational programming through the "EDOVO" application and "Khan Academy", at no cost to the individual.

The Department understands the public unequivocally wants access to physical pieces of mail. While digitized mail can offer many advantages, including improved accessibility and ease of viewing, some pieces of mail are preferred in physical form. Some comments specifically mentioned birthday cards, photographs, and obituaries of close friends or family. To accommodate these requests, the Department will provide a "request to print" process. This will allow the individual in custody to request a printout of a particular piece of mail, which will either be printed at the facility or through an intergovernmental agreement with the Department of Human Services (DHS) for printing at its print shop. This will allow heavier cardstock printing and finishing options. In addition to the ability to request printed copies of a specific piece of mail.

IDOC has reviewed many comments requesting photos to be sent through without being digitized. To accommodate this request, the Department will allow photos ordered and delivered through a verifiable third-party provider to be sent to the individual in custody. These photos will still be reviewed, per section 525.145 of the proposed rule.

Department Recommendation:

In response to the public comments, IDOC proposes to amend section 525.140 with the addition of "*m) Individuals in custody may receive photographs that are delivered directly from a verifiable vendor, are unopened, and include the original watermark(s). After review, per section 525.145, these photographs may be delivered directly to the individual without digitization."*

The Department also recommends the following addition to the rule.

Individuals in custody may request mail to be printed by the Department according to Section 525.145 (a)(2)(A)(ii) at no cost to the individual in custody making the request.

Books, Publications, and Religious Concerns

Comment:

Received from:

The John Howard Association, Education Justice Project, She Votes, Midwest Books to Prisoners, the Restore Justice Foundation, the Catholic Lawyers Guild of Chicago, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Chicago Books to Women in Prison, the Illinois Alliance for Reentry and Justice, the general public, and individuals in custody.

Summary of Comments:

The Department reviewed several hundred comments related to the proposed changes to publications entering IDOC facilities. Many of these comments referred to the "publisher only" requirement. Some comments were related to the specific process for reviewing and approving publications. The Department received a comment from the ACLU regarding the proposed rule removing the requirement to notify the individual in custody and the publisher of a denied publication. They claim this does not allow the opportunity to challenge or appeal that decision. The Education Justice Project at the University of Illinois presented concerns of how higher education programs would be impacted by the change to approved publications.

The Department received a comment from the Illinois Alliance for Reentry and Justice (ILARJ). The comments responsive to this rule related to the review and approval process by the facility staff. They wish to see amendments to the rule, placing more detail around notification of denials and ability to file appeals for publication reviews. Many of their comments are related to the electronic messaging system, "CorrLinks", which is not included in the processing of physical mail or publications.

Additional public comments state the publisher only rule is burdensome and removes options for individuals in custody to obtain essential books, magazines, and puzzles. Some of the comments expressed concerns about the ability for book donations to be sent to IDOC facilities. Advocates shared that it is more cost-effective for organizations to print and mail worksheets available online for free than to purchase workbooks from publishers and mail them directly to individuals. The Department reviewed several comments from religious organizations, such as the Catholic Lawyers Guild of Chicago, related to spiritual well-being handwritten prayers provide and the inability to carry the same message through scans, used religious books, and the ability to send pamphlets and newsletters from their organization. Additional comments requested clarification of the status of hard-covered books, if they would be allowed in the amended rule. The Department received comments, both in person and in writing, that accused this change as a mechanism to force individuals in custody to utilize paid content on their tablets, rather than possess physical books. Among the comments provided were the following:

- *"Books-to-prison organizations are also crucial lifelines. I volunteer for Chicago Books to Women in Prison, and the letters we get from incarcerated people confirm again and again that the books we send them keep them occupied, give them crucial education or life*

skills, and allow them to maintain a connection to the outside world."

- *"Can used books be sent in as long as they have been ordered through a vendor or book donation services, ie.(ebay, books2prisoners, reputable book donation services)?"*
- *"I just want magazines or books being sent in from amazon or b&n to be able to still come in"*
- *"I dont like the rule changes because the prison is trying to eliminate us from having bibles or other religious material sent in. Everything is being denied."*

Department Analysis:

Access to books including textbooks, religious texts, novels, and legal materials, has always been a fundamental component of IDOC's mission. The proposed rule amends the language, to prohibit books and other publications from being dropped off at the facilities by visitors. After reviewing the comments, it is clear additional communication is needed to address the concerns raised.

The topic of books being donated to the facility was brought up frequently, and the Department wishes to address it specifically. IDOC is thankful for the longstanding relationships it has with outside organizations that seek to donate books to facility libraries. This is an essential partnership, and IDOC intends to continue growing those relationships and increase donations. Recently, IDOC expanded access paper books in several facilities, through a partnership with Freedom Reads. The Department was intentional in the rule, the publisher delivery only provision does not apply to facility libraries.

The Department received similar concerns related to textbooks being sent in for religious programming, classrooms, and other programmatic activities. IDOC offers a wide variety of targeted programming, including those led by IDOC staff, volunteers, and contractual relationships. These programs cover areas such as basic education, advanced learning, vocational platforms, religious chaplaincy services, and correctional industries. Each program has unique instruction platforms, ranging from didactic learning, textbook/worksheets, hands-on methods, among others; textbooks and workbooks are often necessary. For these reasons, IDOC will continue to allow textbooks and other approved publications, for use in programs. This includes worksheets for approved education programs through the Office of Adult Education and Vocational Services. These requirements are stipulated in the rule as shown below:

> *525.210(c) Only publications sent to an individual in custody through the mail shall be permitted to enter facilities. This shall not prohibit publications already included in the personal property of an individual in custody from entering through transfers between Department facilities. This does not include publications received for programs under the Office of Adult Education and Vocational Services, other approved programs, the facility library, and religious programs.*

The Department also reviewed hundreds of comments related to used books and hard covered books and wishes to respond to those comments. The Department specifically recognizes hard covered books in the rule, through the definition of "publication," included below:

> *"Publication" means any hard or soft-covered book, booklet, magazine, newsletter, newspaper, pamphlet, periodical, or similar materials. Publications shall not include individual or mass mailings of advertisements or letters.*

Any hard cover book shall be allowed, as long as it does not violate any other section of the rule. Additionally, the Department recognizes the value of used publications and is not prohibiting their delivery. Used publications shall be assessed per the applicable section(s) of the rule and allowed if found to be compliant.

While the change to publications being sent only from a publisher has been identified as a controversial topic, the Department continues its commitment to allowing many options to receive books and other texts. The definition of "publisher" in the rule was intentionally broad, to allow publications to come from a variety of sources. This definition is included below.

> *"Publisher" means any publisher, book club, or bookstore, any other book, magazine, or newspaper distributor, a religious organization or ministry, an educational institution, or a unit of government conducting mail order business or otherwise delivering publications to readers.*

The Department reviewed comments related to the assumed removal of notification to an individual in custody of a publication denial. To address these comments, IDOC points the commenter to section 525.233(a)(1) and 525.233(a)(2), the specific language in the rule is below.

> *Notify an individual in custody when a publication received in the mailroom, addressed to the individual, is listed as disapproved or approved conditionally on the Statewide Publications Determination List, or has been altered from the original published format. The Facility Publication Review Officer shall request that the individual in custody choose a disposal method.*

Section 525.233(a)(2) "... *The Central Publication Review Committee shall notify the publisher."*

Over the last few years, the Department has updated its publication review policy and operations under Administrative Directive 04.01.108. Those updates require escalating levels of review prior to a final determination, and final determinations on disapproval and/or conditional approval only occur through the Central Publication Review Committee. In updating the Administrative Code, the Department seeks to reconcile the Code with current policies and operations, preserving the individual in custody recipients' and publisher's ability to receive notification of disapproval and/or conditional approval. Proposed additional language changes identify the individual in custody recipient's ability to proceed to the grievance process rather than first challenging publication disapproval or conditional approval at the facility level as the previous section 525.230(c)(5) stated. Again, a final determination on disapproval and/or conditional approval no longer occurs at the facility level.

Further, Department policy currently permits publishers to submit written objections to the

Central Publication Review Committee. In removing 525.230(c)(2), the Department had no intention to remove the publisher's ability to object to a final determination. As such, the Department presents additional language changes that include notice to the publisher, opportunity to object to a final determination, and subsequent review of this objection under section 525.233.

Department Recommendation:

To make the intent of the Department clearer, the following text will be removed from 525.210(e) "*Used publications that contain notes, writings, pictures, or are otherwise altered from their original state are prohibited."*

The Department proposes edit to 525.233(c), to read as follows:

*Following receipt of publication from the Chief Administrative Officer, the Central Publication Review Committee shall notify the Facility Publication Review Officer**,** with written explanation, that the Committee has:*

The Department proposes to edit 525.233(a)(1), to read as follows:

Notify an individual in custody when a publication received in the mailroom, addressed to the individual, is listed as disapproved or approved conditionally on the Statewide Publications Determination List, or has been altered from the original published format. The Facility Publication Review Officer shall request that the individual in custody choose a disposal method. The individual in custody may file a grievance in accordance with 20 Ill. Admin. Code 504, Subpart F.

The Department proposes to make the following addition to 525.233(c).

4) Upon receiving notice from the Central Publication Review Committee under section 525.233(a)(2), the publisher may file an objection and submit a written supportive statement or other documentation within 35 days of the notice date. If an objection is filed, then the Chief of Operations and Chief of Programs shall review the objection. A written determination shall be provided to the publisher within 60 days of the Department's receipt of the objection.

Technology and Operational Concerns

Comment:

Received from:

The John Howard Association, Equip for Equality, the Restore Justice Foundation, Catholic Lawyers Guild of Chicago, the general public, and individuals in custody.

Summary of Comments:

The Department received hundreds of comments related to the operation and logistical issues surrounding the scanning of mail. While meeting with the Restore Justice Foundation, they voiced concern about prior language in the rule, related to the operational aspect of an individual in custody sending legal mail. Their concerns were centered around the rule's language potentially limiting the amount of legal mail the individual could send, if they had insufficient funds to pay for the postage. Equip for Equality (EFE) provided public comment related to various operational and technological concerns related to the proposed rule. These comments included limited access for individuals in custody with identified disabilities, specifically visual and intellectual impairments. Other concerns mentioned by EFE include their frequent mass-mailings they send to IDOC facilities.

Comments from the general public and individuals in custody mentioned access to technology and concerns related to accessing mail. These comments included the lack of Wi-Fi capability within the facilities, tablets not working, and delays in mail processing. Complaints about the Bulletin Board user interface on the tablet for accessing electronic mail were prevalent in a number of comments submitted by individuals in custody. Additional comments mentioned the quality of the scans to the tablets and the inability to receive a paper copy of their mail. Several comments expressed concern about the security of the electronic mail files, the potential misuse of this data, and what would happen in the event of a data breach. Family members and concerned citizens commented mail is potentially being sent to the wrong individual in custody and those in restricted housing do not receive their mail due to not having a tablet. The majority of these comments were received from the individual in custody survey responses, and examples are included below.

- *"I feele [sic] it is wrong, and here is why. First, if the wi-fi goes down for any reason or is having any kind of issue we are then deprived of our mail"*
- *"Many men have broken tablets and cannot receive their scanned mail."*
- *"The mail is very upsetting now because of all the delays i have had books in the mailroom for at least a month and now im still waiting but i understaand [sic] why its still very difficult"*
- *"Mail is backed up and its causing a big delay."*
- *"Mail scanning of non-privileged communications will be done by a private vendor, but the proposed rule sets no limits on the private vendor's ability to access, extract, and share or sell information it collects. Some vendors maintain or may later develop searchable databases of scanned mail; such databases can be queried by third parties, retained indefinitely, or provided to law enforcement without judicial process. Under the rule,*

private vendors are also not subject to security practices that minimize the risk of data breaches that are simply not present with physical mail."

Department Analysis:

The Department understands the concerns identified by the public. The implementation of mail digitization, through scanned mail process was a major operational shift and came with many challenges. With 28 facilities, each with differing layouts and construction, the Department faces unique obstacles in deploying new technology consistently across the system. The Department, through partnership with ICSolutions, undertook significant planning to prepare the facilities for mail scanning. Installing additional wireless access points (WAPs) and upgrading wireless controllers and switches were among the measures implemented to improve the availability and speed of the network. Even with these efforts, implementation has challenges due to unforeseen issues. Some IDOC facilities experienced malfunctions in the scanners resulting in backlogs of mail processing. The Department has acted quickly by delivering additional scanners or photocopying the mail to ensure it is delivered to the individuals in custody.

In regard to comments related to tablet interfaces, particularly the "Bulletin Board". This is a function of the tablets, provided by the vendor, to facilitate communication with the individuals in custody. The Department continues to work with ICSolutions on improvements to the interface and the public comments will directly inform those efforts. To respond to the specific comments related to restricted housing and individuals not receiving mail due to not having a tablet, the Department provides their mail by photocopying it. This is the same process for those individuals who may not have a tablet due to inability to operate one.

Other operational concerns focused on information-security concerns related to a third-party interaction with the mail. To these comments, IDOC asserts as a State agency, it is bound by all data security requirements governed by the Illinois Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT); as defined in 20 ILCS 1370/1-15(d). The agreement between IDOC and ICSolutions includes a Data Sharing and Protection Agreement (DSA).

IDOC recognizes many individuals in custody have disabilities and impairments, that may impact their ability to access digitized mail on their tablet. The Department frequently works with advocacy groups, such as EFE, to address accessibility concerns within facilities. This collaboration will continue and specifically address those concerns related to access to technology. IDOC remains fully committed to meeting its obligations under the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) and section 504 of the Rehab Act, which includes providing reasonable accommodations and modifications where needed. The proposed rule does not limit IDOC's ability to comply with federal disability law; rather, it intentionally incorporates flexibility to ensure access for individuals with disabilities. These flexibilities include authorizing the Director to remove any item from the mail digitization and photocopy process, when required by state or federal law, which would include the ADA and Rehab Act. For individuals in custody with known visual or intellectual impairments, that would limit their ability to access mail via their tablet, the Department may provide a physical copy to ensure effective communication.

In response to comments asserting the proposed rule is overly burdensome for mass-mailings, the Department has the following response. For non-privileged mail, the new mail digitization process would allow the Department to upload a newsletter or mass-mailing to the Bulletin Board, which would be accessible to all individuals in custody. This process would actually be easier and more cost-effective compared to mailing to all individuals separately. For privileged mail mass-mailings, where multi-factor authentication is overly burdensome, the Department refers to section 525.145(b)(3)(c). This flexibility allows the Department to implement any other secure and reasonable method that prevents contraband introduction and does not copy, scan, image, or otherwise record privileged communications.

In response to the several dozen comments related to accessibility of the scanned document on the tablet, the Department offers the following response. Many comments noted issues with the orientation of scanned documents, such as pages appearing upside down or out of order. Because this process is new for mailroom staff, additional training has been provided. Since the initial implementation in September, the number of complaints related to scanning issues has decreased. There were also comments about the length of time a document is available once it is scanned. If a piece of mail is digitized through scanning, it is then posted and available on the individual in custody's Bulletin Board. It is available on this board for six (6) months, during which time the individual can download it to their device. Once it is on the device, it can remain there indefinitely, until the individual deletes it.

As stated in a prior response, an individual in custody may also request a piece of mail be printed and physically distributed. The Department is committed to allowing this request and has an intergovernmental agreement with DHS to provide high quality prints. In addition, the Department has provided color copiers to all facilities, to accommodate the request for photocopied mail.

In response to comments received regarding prior rule language, in section 525.130(a), potentially limiting an individual in custody's ability to send legal mail due to insufficient funds, the Department recognizes that concern. Through conversations with advocacy groups, the Department believes this stems from the phrase *"reasonable amounts of"* stated in that section. IDOC does not limit the amount of legal mail an individual may send, regardless of the balance of their trust account. To make this clear, IDOC proposes amended language in the recommendation section below.

Department Recommendation:

The Department will continue to address data security in contractual language, through partnership with the Illinois Department of Innovation and Technology.

To further support these comments, IDOC recommends adding 525.145(a)(2)(C) *Any contract agreement with a third-party vendor shall comply with all information security and data privacy polices stipulated by the State of Illinois Department of Innovation and Technology.*

In section 525.130(a), IDOC proposes to remove the language *"reasonable amounts of"* from line 251 of the rule.

Financial Burdens

Comment:

Received from:

The John Howard Association, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), She Votes, Midwest Books to Prisoners, Education Justice Project, Office of the State Appellate Defender's, the general public, and individuals in custody.

Summary of Comments:

The Department reviewed hundreds of comments related to the financial impact of the amended rule. Policy organizations and advocacy groups, such as the Restore Justice Foundation and the ACLU, provided comment related to the cost associated with mail scanning. Restore Justice commented that mail scanning will increase the costs for loved ones, while profiting telecommunication companies. They request confirmation that any costs would be covered by the Department and not passed to the friends and families of incarcerated individuals. The ACLU comments question the "no-cost" contract if a third-party were to provide mail scanning. Their concern is the potential for a third-party to sell user data. Other comments provided by family and friends, concerned citizens and the individuals in custody varied in context but focused primarily on additional cost of postage, costs associated with a third-party vendor contract, and costs associated with greeting cards that are just scanned and not delivered in original form. Some comments discussed concerns with the costs of purchasing new books from publishers. Among the comments provided were the following:

- *"The cost of new books is prohibative, and creates a hardship. I have also used a number of books to prisoner programs, which are no longer allowed."*
- *"This isnt fair, we have family members who cant afford to buy us books at store, catalog prices and they go to second hand stores like thirft stores, and the like to find books at really low cost compared to buying them new."*
- *"This is not fair due to tge fact that if you want to touch or get a real card picture or smell a letter you cant an some of the cards cost money hallmart is not cheap my family pay money to send me a card ect an i get a copy"*
- *"This is also a financial burdon on familiys as well. You are only allowing for the mail to stay on the tablet for only six months. So every six months my family must resend photos that cost them money to print and mail."*

Department Analysis:

The Department does not believe this rule will impose any additional cost on to the individual in custody or those seeking to send mail. The comments related to increased postage cost, due to errors, does not correlate to the intent of the Department. The prior rule had the same requirements for postage and addressing of envelopes, and staff currently work through errors without denying the mail. Every possible step is taken to identify the sender or recipient, prior to mail being returned to the sender.

The comments related to re-sending photos or cards, based on the belief they are deleted after six (6) months, stem from misinterpretation of the rule. The individual may download a scanned piece of mail to their device or request a printed copy. Additionally, photos that are sent from a verifiable vendor may be provided to the individual in their original form without digitization. This is discussed in more detail in a prior section of this appendix.

Other comments related to the "publisher only rule" and the perceived ban on used books and donations also appear to arise from a misinterpretation of the rule that the Department wishes to clarify. Used books may still be sent to an individual in custody, if they are sent from a publisher. Additionally, donations may still be made to the facility libraries, and IDOC encourages community partners to continue supporting these efforts.

The Department believes the new tablets significantly enhance the population's ability to access free educational and reading content. The tablets provided, at no cost to the individual, come with preloaded reading materials through the "EDOVO" application. The tablets also offer free access to thousands of reading materials through "Project Gutenberg". Further, IDOC has expanded access to law text, through the Fastcase Law Library, that is provided on every tablet.

Department Recommendation:

To make the intent of the Department clearer, the following text will be removed from 525.210(e) *"Used publications that contain notes, writings, pictures, or are otherwise altered from their original state are prohibited."*

Legal and Constitutional Concerns

Comment:

Received from:

The John Howard Association, Uptown Peoples Law Center, American Civil Liberties Union, the Restore Justice Foundation, the Office of the State Appellate Defender's, Cook County Public Defenders, the general public, and individuals in custody.

Summary of Comments:

The Department received numerous comments from external stakeholders, both in person and in writing, claiming the proposed rule amendment is a violation of legal confidentiality. Multiple assertions were made that legal mail would be opened unlawfully and the process would delay access to the courts. The Department heard and reviewed multiple comments from the legal community including Uptown People's Law Center and the ACLU. The topics of these comments varied but focused on First Amendment concerns, privacy concerns, and the proposed multi-factor authentication system for privileged mail. The comments assert this process puts an undue burden on the legal community in their attempts to communicate with their clients. Among the comments provided were the following:

- *"The proposed rule also raises significant First Amendment concerns. Courts have recognized that the timing of speech is sometimes as important as its content, an observation that has particular force when it comes to mail concerning legal and medical matters."*
- *"The ACLU has serious privacy concerns with the Department's plan to not only scan all incoming mail, but to save copies of the scanned correspondence, potentially collecting large sums of personal and sensitive information."*
- *"…this rule creates huge barriers for legal advocates like me who send hundreds of letters out to our clients every month. I am personally co-counsel on a major class action lawsuit which affects everyone inside IDOC, so I am regularly in contact with thousands of clients. Forcing me to go through a multi-authentication process to individually track each piece of mail I send out will be an enormous time burden. There must be simpler ways to authenticate legal mail, such as the unique stamp that UPLC already uses for our legal mail."*

Department Analysis:

Constitutional Contentions

Public comments addressed toward the legal implications of the rule predominantly focus on the Department's proposed use of a Multi-Factor Authentication ("MFA") System for privileged mail under the new Section 525.145(b)(3)(A). Comments summarized below have mainly originated from such stakeholders as the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Uptown People's Law

Center (UPLC), the Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender (CCPD), the Office of the State Appellate Defender (OSAD), the John Howard Association (JHA), and Equip for Equality (EFE) Specifically, commenters assert that use of a Sender ID and randomly generated Control Number for legal mail, a category of privileged mail, would not survive Constitutional scrutiny under *Turner v. Safley*, 482 U.S. 78 (1987) for the following reasons:

• A significant administrative burden shifted toward attorneys and staff in using the system for highly frequent and considerable in volume legal correspondence, which could lead to various delays on time-sensitive matters with significant implications (OSAD, CCPD, EFE, UPLC);

• Such entities as not-for-profit corporations, state agencies, and other organizations with limited resources would be further challenged in providing a wide range of legal services to individuals in custody (all stakeholders mentioned);

• While language in the proposed rule prohibits scanning of privileged mail, the possibility for perceived non-compliant legal mail and/or "human error" in processing correspondence could expose legal/confidential communications to being scanned and placed on a "digital dashboard" for unintended parties to view. In turn, commenters assert this could lead to a "chilling effect" on attorney-client communications (ACLU, UPLC);

• Overall, requiring compliance with the MFA system and imposing scanned mail are not reasonably related to a legitimate penological interest. Specifically, commenters assert that based upon alleged insufficient data presented concerning drug- or chemical-soaked papers entering facilities through legal mail (and mail generally), there is a tenuous connection between the proposed rule and maintenance of prison security and prevention of contraband from entering prisons. Commenters essentially imply that the proposed rule under *Turner* analysis is a "needlessly broad" and "exaggerated response." *Id*. at 90-91. (All stakeholders mentioned).

The Department acknowledges these concerns but respectfully believes that the proposed rule meets the *Turner* standard. For discussion on evidence and data supporting the rule, *see supra* Evidence and Data Concerns. Regarding the MFA system, under *Fontroy v. Beard*, 559 F.3d 173 (3rd Cir. 2009) the Third Circuit Court of Appeals determined nearly two decades ago that a substantially similar prison regulation to the proposed rule had satisfied the *Turner* standard. In 2002, the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections required attorneys and courts to affix control numbers to an individual in custody's legal mail. *Id*. at 175-176. Pennsylvania successfully presented evidence of "ongoing and systematic abuses" of legal mail which included, but were not limited to, "use of fake attorney return addresses" to smuggle contraband into correctional facilities. *Id*. at 179.

Twenty years later, the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (ODRC) would rely on *Fontroy* to defend its own MFA system. *Quinn v. Rodriguez*, 2025 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 34228 (N.D. Ohio), *appeal pending*, No. 25-3845 (docketed October 22, 2025). In 2021, Ohio introduced an MFA policy under 75-MAL-03, and in 2022 successfully engaged in administrative rulemaking to amend the definition of "Legal Mail" in the Ohio Administrative Code and thereby be consistent with the agency's policy changes. *See* Ohio Admin. Code § 5120-9-17(B)(2). During discovery in *Quinn*, Ohio presented significant evidence of a sharp decline in contraband-laden legal mail upon policy implementation. *Quinn*, 2025 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 34228, *8-9* (From 370 interceptions of

contraband-laden legal mail in 2020, to only 9 instances in 2023). On balance, Ohio argued that the policy "curtailed the conveyance of drug contraband into ODRC institutions, led to the elimination of hundreds of invalid registrations for attorneys and law firms, increased overall security and safety for the institutions, employees, and community partners, and allow[ed] for better allocation of ODRC employee time." *Id.* at *26.

The *Quinn* court found that Ohio's policy met the *Turner* standard, drawing heavily on *Fontroy*'s analysis. The court determined there was valid, rational connection between the policy and Ohio's legitimate penological interest in maintaining security and reducing the illegal conveyance of contraband—such as drug saturated legal documents—through fraudulently marked legal mail. *Id*. at *22-24. The court further determined there to be lack of ready alternatives to the policy. *Id*. at *28-29. While the existence of obvious and easy alternatives may be evidence that the agency's policy is an "exaggerated response," the only alternative offered by plaintiff was a return to the original policy. *Id*. Ultimately, the court found all factors under the *Turner* standard to support Ohio's regulation being reasonable and thus constitutionally permissible. *Id*. at *29-30.

In the same Federal Circuit, the Kentucky Department of Corrections settled litigation with the ACLU and the Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy to create an extensive MFA system. *See Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy, et al. v. Kentucky Department of Corrections, et al.*, 2021-CI-806, 48th Judicial Circuit Court, Franklin Circuit Court, Division 2 (E-filed Settlement, September 27, 2022). Under the settlement agreement, Kentucky was required to modify its mail policies through the regulatory process outlined in Kentucky Revised Statues, Chapter 13A. In 2024, Kentucky successfully amended Title 501, Chapter 6, Section 430 of the Kentucky Administrative Regulations to incorporate by reference Policy 16.2's new MFA system for legal mail.

Kentucky's MFA system is substantially similar to the Department's proposed rule and publicly available FAQs, guidance, and MFA system interface. Alongside Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and Ohio, the Michigan Department of Corrections also employs a similar MFA system for privileged mail by way of a third-party vendor. *See* Director's Office Memorandum 2025 – 19; *see also* Policy Directive 05.03.118. These policies have proliferated over the last five years, with Pennsylvania's control number policy (and its subsequent revisions leveraging recent technology) pre-dating all others by nearly two decades and withstanding constitutional challenge in the Federal courts. Moreover, the notion of incoming mail receiving special treatment when properly labeled in accordance with prison regulations has been positively examined by the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. *See Jenkins v. Huntley*, 235 Fed. Appx. 374, 376 (7th Cir. 2007); also Kaufman v. McCaughtry, 419 F.3d 678, 686 (7th Cir. 2005).

The Department further recognizes that OSAD projected a significant increase in work hours and other administrative burdens to comply with use of the MFA system. Specifically, OSAD reviewed the amount of legal mail it produces annually and projected an additional 1,200 work hours needed to comply with the rule. In a follow-up meeting with the Department and a subsequent letter, OSAD recommended a "modified" version of the MFA system that uses a single agency-wide sender ID or control number for a set period of time (monthly, quarterly, etc.). OSAD was further open to IDOC redacting the number prior to delivering the mail to individual in custody recipients.

Similarly, the CCPD and UPLC raised the issue of a significant level of projected administrative

burden imposed by the MFA system onto staff and overall representation of clients. While CCPD and UPLC send high volumes of communication to individuals in custody in the course of representation, they also identified concerns over delays potentially produced by human error in generating, affixing, and reviewing control numbers, as well as costs from having to re-mail documents. CCPD specifically raises concerns for pro se individual in custody litigants whose incoming documents could allegedly be scanned pursuant to the rule.

Regarding administrative burden and a "modified" MFA system for such high-frequency users as OSAD and other entities, the Department has reviewed the recommendation. At this time, the recommendation still presents security issues and other concerns over execution of a "one number per month" approach that the originally proposed system already addresses. For example, redacting the one number prior to delivery does not fully guard against singular instances where the number may fall into a bad actor's hands and be reproduced in the same month that the number remains viable. In contrast, the current MFA system's generated control numbers are only valid for one-time use for a specific piece of mail. The Department's internal interface allows personnel to confirm the number and close the security loop once the mail is received and processed.

Moreover, the Department continues to work on expanded control number batching options while creating an avenue for OSAD and other agencies to contact the Department in advance of sending large batches of mail. In turn, this allows the Department to better facilitate use of the system while actively working with stakeholders on its improvement. As for pro se litigants, communications received from judges or magistrates, State's Attorneys, organizations that provide legal representation to individuals in custody, and other entities a pro se litigant may correspond with are still considered legal mail under the rule's definitions. Similarly, communications with various state and federal entities remain designated as "privileged mail." These forms of mail to pro se litigants would not be subject to scanning, and Section 525.145(b)(3) of the rule is flexible in its inclusion of other security measures alongside use of the MFA system.

As an aside, the Department has received questions on the definition of "privileged mail" from such organizations as Restore Justice, inquiring why this definition is dependent upon a designated list of recipients/senders rather than a static definition. Historically, correctional agencies have defined similar categories of mail by listed recipients/senders. *See example* 28 CFR § 540.2, Special Mail, Federal Bureau of Prisons; *see also* Indiana Department of Corrections Policy and Administrative Procedure 02-01-103, Correspondence, Section M, Privileged Correspondence. The term "privileged" under common law generally covers specific relationships and the sharing of confidential communications/information that requires candor and protection. Such privileges have included attorney-client, priest-penitent, and psychotherapist-patient. Federal and state statutes have also defined and separately expanded privilege to other relationships. While "privileged" may have implications in a court of law and public policy in general, common law origin and statutorily defined privileged communications are quite different from the correctional context (*i.e.*, no legally privileged relationship from a common law sense is established between a legislator and an individual in custody). Attempting to define "privileged" in a static manner could introduce confusion in court and other contexts.

Overall, the Department remains committed to easing the burden of MFA on stakeholders through continuous improvement of the MFA interface specifically concerning high frequency and large volume correspondence, operational reduction of human error, policy and internal protections

against accidental scanning of privileged mail to preserve confidentiality, and increased diligence toward confirming privileged mail senders to avoid perfunctory return of mail. The Department relies on the abovementioned caselaw, rulemaking and policy efforts, and general correctional agency examples for successful execution of a *Turner* permissible MFA. The Department presents language changes below under **Recommendations**, representing this commitment.

Privacy

Public comments addressing privacy concerns assert that the rule should contain guardrails on governance of the incredible amount of data collected by scanning non-privileged mail. Commenters find a high probability that confidential, sensitive, and potentially personally identifiable information would be gathered through mail scanning and held by the State or a third-party vendor. Commenters assert that appropriate guardrails should include, but not be limited to, explicit prohibitions on data/scanned file use, external oversight, limits to data inquiries beyond judicial processes, and other data security controls to prevent breaches and other misuse of information.
While numerous commenters from the general public referenced privacy and surveillance concerns, the ACLU's specific concerns are quoted in the italicized Comment opening to this section. The ACLU has directly proposed the following minimum protections be incorporated into the rule:

- Absolute ban on secondary uses (e.g., analytics, retention for training, commercial exploitation);
- Vendors must be contractually prohibited from sharing scans with any third party (including law enforcement) absent a court order;
- Vendors must be contractually prohibited from creating or maintaining searchable indices or databases of scanned mail;
- Vendors must be contractually prohibited from subcontracting without Department approval;
- Vendors must be subject to civil penalties for misuse;
- Data minimization: Require and implement clear, short retention periods for any temporary electronic copy with mandatory secure deletion and written certificates of destruction; provide individuals a pathway to request the destruction of their mail (and any corresponding electronic file);
- Implementation of reasonable security controls (e.g., encryption, data breach notification Transparency including public reporting on numbers and categories of scanned items, independent oversight (Inspector General or similar authority), and clear appeal and correction rights for affected individuals.

The ACLU asserts the above protections are "essential to respecting fundamental constitutional guarantees [and] [w]ithout such measures the program will create a mass repository of intensely personal information vulnerable to misuse, mass surveillance, and breach—with predictable and irreversible harm to people in custody, their families, and counsel."

The Department takes data protection and information governance seriously. Under the Illinois Information Security Improvement Act (20 ILCS 1375/et seq.), specifically section 5-15, the Office of the Statewide Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) is housed within the Illinois

department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT). Among several duties, the CISO is statutorily empowered as the "lead and central coordinating entity to guide and oversee the information security functions of State agencies," to "assist State agencies with fulfilling their responsibilities under" the Information Security Improvement Act, and "monitor and report State agency's compliance with State information security policies, standards, and procedures." 20 ILSC 1375/5-15(b)(1),(2), and (8). The Department works closely with DoIT to ensure compliance with Federal and Illinois laws and regulations which include but are not limited to HIPPA (Pub. L. No. 104-191, § 264, 110 Stat.1936), FBI Criminal Justice Information Systems regulations (28 CFR 20, Subpart A), and the Illinois Personal Information and Protection Act (815 ILCS 530/et seq.). Further, the Department works to comply with the State's Information Security policies as maintained by DoIT's CISO, and the Department continues to dedicate resources toward that end. The Department neither commodifies nor sells data, confidential information, and/or personally identifiable information.

Any contracted vendor performing scanned mail or other information technology related services that require holding and/or collection of data generated by or through the Department would be required to comply with the abovementioned laws, regulations, and DoIT promulgated policies. Under current terms and conditions in the recent solicitation for third-party scanned mail services, vendors, agents, and subcontractors are required to implement and maintain reasonable security measures to protect any and all data, information, and records disclosed by the State under the contract from unauthorized access, acquisition, destruction, use, modification, or disclosure.

Specifically addressing the ACLU's proposed minimum protections and general assertions, the Department offers the following response:

- Through Standard Illinois Contract provision (version 25.4), section 4.8, Confidential Information, all data obtained and maintained through the contract would be considered confidential information. No data collected, maintained, or used in the course of performance of the contract shall be disseminated except as authorized by law and with the written consent of the disclosing parties, either during the period of the contract or after.

Beyond strict requirements in the body of the contract, prospective vendors agree to comply with DoIT Standard Terms and Conditions and Cloud Hosting Terms and Conditions which further reference DoIT policies maintained on the agency's website and elsewhere.

Specific DoIT policies that govern authorized use of data, information on/derived from agency legitimate business, and personally identifiable information (PII) include but are not limited to the Acceptable Use Policy (eff. 11/15/2018, revised 9/27/2024), Privacy Security Policy (eff. 11/5/2018, revised 09/27/2024), the Privacy: Use Limitation Policy (eff. 10/08/2018, revised 09/27/2024), and Artificial Intelligence Policy (eff. 04/01/2025). Section 4.2.1 (Information Sharing with Third Parties) of the Privacy: Use Limitation Policy states that an "Agency shall share PII externally only in the following manners: (i) for the authorized purposes identified in federal and state laws and regulations; (ii) as described in the Agency's notice(s); and/or (iii) for a purpose compatible with the purposes in 4.2.1(i) and 4.2.1(ii)."

Under the Unified Code of Corrections (735 ILCS 5/et seq.), IDOC's Director is not empowered to sell or distribute information—let alone non-law enforcement or criminal justice related data—in any way similar to other State Constitutional Officers. See Illinois Vehicle Code 625 ILCS 5/2-123, Sale and distribution of information. Therefore, no clear authorization would currently exist for secondary use, and no permission has been granted.

- Absent a valid subpoena and/or lawful court order, contractually information would not be shared under the current terms and conditions and incorporated policies previously mentioned. It is highly unlikely that "scans" would be considered strictly as "criminal justice" information under Title 28 CFR, Part 20 – Criminal Justice Information Systems, or "corrections information" under the Criminal Identification Act, 20 ILCS 2630/2.1(e).

- Under section 1.2.13.3, Data Retention and Deletion of Scanned Images, from the current bid solicitation, a prospective vendor is required to retain scanned images and associated data only for the duration of an agreed upon retention period, which covers the term of the contract (5 years), Upon expiration of the retention period, the vendor shall securely delete all such data from its systems and provide written certification of deletion upon request by the Department, confirming that all scanned images and related metadata, have been permanently removed from the active and archived storage. Maintenance of the data storage would be subject to DoIT security and privacy controls as referenced under Security Assessment and Authorization (eff. 10/08/2018, revised 09/27/2024) and Security Planning Policy (eff. 10/08/2018, revised 09/27/2024).

Operationally, after an original document is scanned and uploaded to the data storage system, the individual in custody mail recipient will have six months to download the digitized document onto their tablet. After six months, the scanned mail will be transferred to a longer-term storage server. While it will remain retrievable from this server, retrieval will require advanced notice.

- Through Standard Illinois Contract provision (version 25.4), section 4.3, Subcontracting, a prospective vendor is already prohibited from subcontracting without prior written approval

- Standard Illinois Contract (version 25.4), section 4.10, Indemnification and Liability, requires the vendor to indemnify and hold the Department harmless from any and all costs, claims, damages, etc. arising out of breach of the agreement and among other circumstances. Specific to the mail scanning solicitation, DoIT's accompanying standard terms and conditions under sections 2.10, Indemnification and Liability, 4.10.1, Data Breach Prevention, Notice, and Remediation, and 4.10.2, Data Loss and Damage to State Computer Systems, collectively address the vendor's potential negligent or intentional acts or omissions. For example, the vendor will remain liable where any damage or impairment of the State's computers, systems, networks, or any loss or corruption of the State's data or content, is due to such acts or omissions. The vendor is also required to reimburse the State for any and all costs incurred in restoring data, content, computers, systems, or networks.

- Data minimization is addressed by the current bid solicitation and discussed above.

- DoIT terms and conditions, section 4.10.1, Data Breach Prevention, Notice, and Remediation, requires the vendor to ensure the security, storage, and integrity of the State's

content, data, computers, networks, and systems (which may include the use of encryption technology to protect the State's content and data from unauthorized access). Breach notification and other duties consistent with the Illinois Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA) (815 ILCS 530) are directly placed into and required by the contract. Under section 2.29, Security Requirements, vendors are required to comply with PIPA, Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Security Policy (version 5.5), and other laws/regulations. Vendors are further required to participate in an information security risk assessment, data classification and system categorization process, and the submission of a system security plan must be completed and submitted to DoIT prior to the commencement of system development or solution delivery activities.

The Department greatly appreciates the concerns raised on this front by commenters. The Department believes such concerns are appropriately addressed through other laws, regulations, policies, and contract flow-down provisions. *See supra* Technology and Operational Concerns, Comment Analysis. However, a language change is proposed above in the Technology and Operational Concerns section's **Recommendations.**

Property Rights

The ACLU has specifically asserted that the rule potentially infringes on protected property interests by depriving individuals in custody of physical mail. In *Orozco v. Dart*, 64 F.4th 806, 815-817 (7th Cir. 2023), the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals discussed the complexities of a continuing, protectable property interest versus a curtailed possessory interest in confiscated books due to Cook County Jail's personal property limits. Relying on its analysis in *United States v. Miller*, 588 F.3d 418 (7th Cir. 2009), the Seventh Circuit compared seized firearms and untimely civil forfeiture proceedings to contraband confiscation in a carceral context:

> The Jail's policy limited Koger's possessory interest in his books but could not immediately extinguish his property interest in them. Still, "[p]roperty interests are created and defined by state law," so Illinois law could conceivably divest Koger of a property interest in the excess books.

Orozco, 64 F.4th 806, 815 (internal citation omitted). Notably, the personal property discussed in *Orozco* were mailed books that were already delivered physically and presently possessed in cell prior to confiscation, thus triggering due process considerations. As the Seventh Circuit indicated in *Orozco*, "[a]n interest in property is a protected interest for purposes of procedural due process. [citation omitted]. Under normal circumstances, books plainly qualify as property. But the analysis is more complex in the jail context." *Id*. at 814.

The Department agrees with commenters that protected property interests in a carceral context are complex. That said, the Department would also note the Seventh Circuit's nuanced discussion on this issue in *Munson v. Gaetz*, 673 F.3d 630, 638 (7th Cir. 2012), which *cited* and *quoted* the Tenth Circuit's decision in *Hatten v. White*, 275 F.3d 1208, 1210 (10th Cir. 2002), "'[w]hile an inmate's ownership of property is a protected property interest that may not be infringed without due process, there is a difference between the right to own property and the right to possess property while in prison.'" Again, the Department maintains that the proposed rule is reasonably related to

a legitimate penological interest—which includes scanning mail prior to its digital delivery—satisfying the *Turner* standard.

Department Recommendation:

The Department proposes to edit the language in 525.145.b.3.A. to "*Use of a multi-factor authentication system that allows the Department to confirm the identity of the sender of a piece of privileged mail. If multi-factor authentication is unable to confirm the sender of a piece of privileged mail, the Department shall conduct further review to confirm the identity of the sender. Once the identity of the sender is confirmed, privileged mail shall be processed in accordance with section 525.140.*

The agency received 4,221 public comments pertaining to proposed changes in proposed rule, Part/Title: Rights and Privileges (20 Ill. Adm. Code 525), Illinois Register Citation: 49 Ill. Reg. 12567; October 10, 2025.

GENERAL PUBLIC, (576)

Comment:

Jennifer Vollen-Katz, John Howard Association (Oral, Virtual)
I appreciate the opportunity to address this, the committee and this group of folks discussing this important issue. I'm going to try to be brief and not reiterate so many of the good points that have already been raised. I'm Jenny Vollen-Katz, I'm the executive director of the John Howard Association. We are an independent not for profit, correctional oversight organization. We go into the Illinois state prisons, adult and juvenile monitoring for conditions of confinement, treatment of the people who are incarcerated and to generally understand what's going on inside of our prisons in order to number one create transparency, and number two make recommendations for change that will impact everyone in the system, positively. I just want to highlight a couple of the points that have already been brought up that are of particular concern to us and, and to the constituents that we're hearing from. Number one, I cannot stress enough the point Wendell made about not having the data. We are putting solutions into place without knowing if they're proven to be effective when that's completely avoidable. There is now a public law mandating the collection of prison contraband data exactly to address this problem. You know, we are in the prisons, we smell the accurate smoke, we see it on the units. It's a problem and both the staff and the people who are incarcerated need to be kept safe. Absolutely. But understanding how the contraband gets in is critically important to any effective solution. So we question the plan to put this in place without the information that will show us what's effective and not and, you know, there are other jurisdictions that have made this move for the exact same reasons only to find that the overdose rates inside their facilities increased. So, if we want to solve a problem, we should have all the information about what's causing the problem in order to do that effectively. And we have not done that in this case. The other thing I would point out is often drug use goes up inside prisons when there's a lack of activity. And you know that a lot of our facilities right now are seeking to address, it talks about the need to protect the safety of the people who are incarcerated, the people who work in the facilities, and it mentions the ways contraband comes into the prisons, and it does not mention staff or outside vendors or contractors, people who regularly move in and out of the facilities. Is one of the vectors for contraband entrance into the facilities, which really goes against all known information in facts coming from our jurisdiction and others. There's a lot of different ways that the contraband gets in and this is you know, one potential way that has never been demonstrated to be the major way that contraband comes into facilities. And so doing this hurts the people that are incarcerated. There is an issue with tangible connection to the people who love them, who support them on the outside, as well as the ability to go back to those letters. Retention of mail is a serious issue. We have people in our office who have talked to us about the importance mail played for them during their time in custody and what it meant to them to be able to go back to a letter that had particularly important news or something that was deeply meaningful to them over and over to help get them through. So, that is something significant that should be considered. We appreciate the opportunity to be part of the conversation. We hope the conversation will be ongoing. We

look forward to IDOC collecting this data and making it available. You know, there is NO law that says you can't start doing that before the implementation of the public law. And I think that that information would be very useful in this conversation to mail scanning so people better understand the problem and again effective solutions can be proposed and put forward and implemented. Thank you.

Comment:
Jennifer Vollen-Katz, John Howard Association (Written)
To Glen Austin, IDOC:

Attached please find public comment on IDOC's current proposed rule, thank you for including it in the public record. If you have any questions I can be reached by return email or at (773)580-9057.

My best,
Jenny

Jennifer Vollen-Katz
Executive Director
John Howard Association

Attachment

John Howard Association Public Comment
November 21, 2025
Proposed Rule Regarding Mail, Privileged Communications, and Receipt of Publications for People in Illinois' State Prisons
Submitted to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules by the Illinois Department of Corrections

The John Howard Association (JHA) is an independent citizen correctional oversight organization that monitors the state-run prisons in Illinois. JHA goes into facilities to observe conditions, speak with and survey people who are incarcerated, speak with corrections staff and administrators, collect data and information, and document our findings and recommendations in order to increase transparency into the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) policies and practices and put forward ways that can improve the safety and well-being of people who live and work inside the prisons.

JHA issued a statement on September 4, 2025 regarding our concerns about the substance of the emergency amendments and the utilization of the emergency rulemaking process for an ongoing situation. Not only was this policy change not grounded in data and information, but lack of stakeholder involvement and input undoubtedly negatively impacted implementation. The lack of communication, feedback, and perspectives from stakeholders likely increased the number of unanticipated issues that inevitably arise from such a profound practice change without development of timely and well-considered policy. We reiterate the concerns articulated in our earlier statement about using mail scanning to address the problem of drug contraband inside IDOC; there is little to suggest this will solve the problem by stopping the inflow of contraband

or the underlying issues that result in increased drug seeking and use, such as constant lockdowns, lack of supports and productive activity, and absence of substance use disorder treatment opportunities.

JHA recognizes the dangers of drugs in prisons, and has observed smoke and related odors on living units with greater frequency in the past few years, particularly those that house people on more restrictive or disciplinary statuses. In addition to this, we hear from people inside prisons that the boredom of lockdowns, inaccessibility of productive activity, and feelings of hopelessness drive people to substance abuse. At the same time, we also hear that people do not want to be around secondhand smoke or be punished for suspected drugs of a cellmate or that they have no control over, and that they are harmed when people using drugs light fires to ignite paper and blow out the electricity needed for use of fans in the cells around them in the heat of summer. Exposure to these drugs is no doubt at best unpleasant and at worst dangerous for people in custody and staff working in prisons. However, there is scant evidence that mail is a significant driver of contraband in prisons or that further isolating people and

depriving them of normalcy, existing minimal rights, and privileges will help. It is critical that we attempt to keep drugs out of prisons, provide treatment opportunities, and keep all people safe. It is also important to recognize that mail is important to people inside and their outside supports, that they reasonably distrust use of vendor technology as a substitute, and that there is a lack of evidence that taking away original mail is an effective solution to the problem and will indeed make facilities safer for the people who live and work inside of them.

JHA notes that IDOC has not presented sufficient data and evidence supporting the source of the problem or efficacy of the proposed solution, and have not articulated other ways in which contraband can enter prisons. In the Proposed Amendments, Illinois Register, Volume 49 Issue 41, the examples provided by IDOC do not include contraband entering prisons through staff, vendors, and others providing services or delivering goods within and to a facility. Yet, at the IDOC Advisory Board Meeting on December 17, 2024, the Agency reported that use of a mail scanning pilot was being done in response to an increased presence of drugs inside facilities, and specifically noted that paper soaked in illegal drugs was more prevalent due to the ability to introduce liquid synthetic cannabinoids into paper and **that there were multiple ways beyond mail in which drug-soaked paper entered prisons.** Without public reporting of data about drug contraband inside prisons, such as where it was found and how it got in, there is no evidence that mail scanning will reduce the inflow of drugs and make people safer, nor is there a way to identify what changes are needed to stop contraband from entering and actually limit the harm to people who are incarcerated and work inside prisons. This lack of transparency undermines real efforts to curtail the introduction of drugs inside prisons, reduce harm, and increase safety. It is also worth noting that IDOC has not publicly stated what drug detection and other efforts have been made to address known issues around drug contraband in prisons. Nor have they indicated that they have discussed the issue with other community and governmental partners, who may be able to offer assistance leading to improved detection, investigation, and prosecution of drug offenses or provision of healthcare resources. **This is not an issue that can be solved through a single approach; utilizing an isolated response to take on the drug war internally through mail scanning seems destined to fail.**

In summary, JHA asserts and reiterates the following issues and concerns related to the Proposed Amendments under consideration:

- Without data and information to reflect how the drugs come into prisons, changes

connected to mail scanning are speculative at best – already, reports to JHA on the impact of mail scanning on drug use inside prisons varies by constituency, with some individuals in custody reporting no change, some staff noting improvements, and other staff indicating there has not been a change but they believe that is due to prior supplies not yet being exhausted or legal mail not yet being scanned or publications that continue to come inside. Facts are needed to assess efficacy and impact.

- Public Act 104-0412, which mandates the collection and reporting of prison contraband data, has not yet been implemented – this law is designed to provide the needed data to assess how drugs are getting into IDOC along with other relevant information which is critical to preventing contraband from getting into prisons. In order to better monitor the impact of mail scanning, the implementation of this data collection and public reporting

- should not wait for the mandated effective date and should instead be implemented immediately. IDOC can voluntarily do this or the Illinois General Assembly can revise the date on which this law goes into effect.
- There have been no new policies or practices announced that would enhance identification of how the majority of illegal drugs which are not entering prisons through the mail are getting in; these importantly could include increased security and searches at all entrances to facilities, use of drug-sniffing K-9 units (which Ohio has found to be the most impactful drug detection practice), as well as utilization of new and improved technologies to detect papers and fabric soaked in synthetic drugs, such as mass spectrometry and portable fluorescence detection devices.
- IDOC has not put forth its plans for addressing the immense unmet need for substance use disorder treatment or programming within prisons, where people are regularly court mandated for treatment without any opportunity to participate while incarcerated. While new reporting requirements for these treatment programs go into effect in 2026, sharing this information as soon as possible would allow for better understanding of the issues and benefit from stakeholder involvement in seeking solutions.
- AFSCME, the union representing most of Illinois' correctional workers, has publicly stated that the Agency entered into a memorandum of understanding with them in May of 2025 to scan mail by July, prior to IDOC entering into the public rule-making/amending process. Given this timing, it appears the move to mail scanning was less about addressing an emergent issue or problems of substance misuse and more about managing the fraught dynamic between corrections staff and administrators.
- While mail scanning is an increasingly common practice in corrections, largely as a for-profit venture, evidence of efficacy is lacking. In fact, reports from Pennsylvania and Missouri prisons suggest implementation of mail scanning does not resolve drug issues.
- Denying individuals in custody access to something meaningful to them, such as original correspondence from loved ones and outside supports, or even trusting them to possess a piece of paper without evidence that this is the source of harm or will address the problem lacks legitimacy. This further degrades trust; erodes relationships, attempts at normalization, and reentry supports; and increases the climate of institutional dysfunction that does not improve the safety of everyone inside the facilities.
- Increased alienation from outside supports has serious repercussions on the well-being and emotional and mental health of people in custody; restrictions on receipt of original

correspondence should only be put in place when there is strong evidence to demonstrate danger or threat to safety.

- Mail scanning presents procedural and logistical constraints such as quality of the scans; determination of policies and practices around which documents get printed or copied for delivery; increased work for mail room staff in order to code, scan, and file incoming correspondence; and the need for and difficulties related to retaining original mail throughout a person's period of incarceration.
- The new/increased costs impacting individuals in custody, outside supports, and IDOC have not been fully calculated. These expenses might include (but are not limited to) costs of other forms of communications which may increase due to mail scanning, need to use for-pay third party vendors which are the only approved way in which to send in publications and photos, and the possibility that the Agency will ultimately outsource mail scanning as they have stated is their intent, which has cost some systems upwards of $1 million annually and can result in delay and further diminish transparency and accountability of these policies and practices.
- Further, the proposed processes for handling legal and privileged mail may violate confidentiality and have a chilling effect on people's willingness to communicate with legal representatives and other stakeholders they are able to contact confidentially because they create a digital record that may defeat some of the intended confidentiality bestowed on trusted entities. These confidential communications are essential to providing people with an opportunity to safely report concerns or abuse, share sensitive information, and seek redress or help from outside the closed system of corrections. It is critical to provide viable ways for people to reach outside the prison system to alert, inform, and report things that require intervention from people and professionals on the outside.
- Creating more administrative hurdles for attorneys and other outside advocates and governmental actors to communicate with incarcerated individuals and attempt to uphold their rights will tax an already extremely limited resource. Further, defining what constitutes legal mail (such as whether mail individuals in custody receive from a court is considered to be legal mail or not) impacts how incoming documents are treated and even if a person is able to get them, and thus may impede access to the courts and the ability to assert one's rights.
- JHA is eager to see the public comment shared by people who are incarcerated regarding the Proposed Amendments. Their perspectives, experiences, and insights are critical to evaluating the impact of such a policy change and should be taken into account by all decision makers.

Not only are the proposed changes to mail receipt and acceptance of publications injurious to people who are incarcerated as well as their outside supports and loved ones, but they leave substantial gaps through which drugs will continue to enter our prisons. Mere perception of addressing a problem is a waste of resources and not a good enough reason to implement a change that will not only not fix the root causes but also stand to negatively affect the rights of people inside and their loved ones. Many issues relating to the proposed changes are also highly likely to be litigated, resulting in more uncertainty, delays in addressing genuine issues inside, and expenses incurred. Without data on how drugs get into prisons and without considering all the ways in which contraband enters facilities, these Proposed Amendments and move to mail scanning are a rush to put an ill-fitting bandage on a wound that's source is unexamined.

Contact information:
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Comment:

Maureen Keane, She Votes Illinois (Written)
On behalf of She Votes Illinois, a statewide organization committed to ensuring that the political system, policies, and laws in Illinois reflect the voices and experiences of women, femmes, and girls, I am writing to express our opposition to the Illinois Department of Corrections' (IDOC) emergency amendments to Part 525 of Title 20 of the Illinois Administrative Code (49 Ill. Reg. 10945), adopted August 14, 2025.

These rules, which significantly alter the processing of mail and publications for people who are incarcerated, were enacted without stakeholder input and raise serious procedural, operational, religious, and equity concerns. They will prevent people from receiving physical letters, cards, and books from loved ones, including their children, and will create an insurmountable barrier for incarcerated individuals who are participating in correspondence-based degree programs. While we understand IDOC's duty to maintain safety and security, these emergency amendments do not appear to meet the legal standard for emergency rulemaking under Illinois law.
Beyond the questionable use of emergency rulemaking, we are deeply concerned about the substance of these rules. The amendments provide no path for original mail to be delivered to the intended recipient, even when the correspondence poses no threat or policy violation. Physical correspondence is more than paper; it is a lifeline. Letters, cards, and books sustain family bonds, provide hope, and support rehabilitation. Restricting mail access and restricting publications creates significant barriers for people to stay connected with their families, pursue educational opportunities, and work toward reentry.

This policy will affect nearly 30,000 people in IDOC custody. There is no evidence that mail scanning improves safety, and studies in other states show it does not reduce contraband or increase safety. The system also shifts costs to families while funneling communications through private vendors that profit from incarceration. In practice, these rules punish everyone for the actions of a few and undermine rehabilitation and family stability.
Despite years of discussion about contraband in IDOC facilities, the Department has provided no data demonstrating how drugs or other items are entering prisons. Public Act 104-0412, recently signed by the Governor, will finally provide data on this issue. Implementing emergency rules before that information is available appears to be premature and avoids engagement with those most affected, including legal, educational, religious, and advocacy communities.

The amendments also authorize destruction of original mail after six months unless the recipient files a grievance, which will unnecessarily burden the grievance system and expose incarcerated people to potential retaliation. Just last month, women at Logan Correctional Center came forward describing retaliation by staff. Limiting publications to those sent directly from publishers will prevent families, nonprofits, and community book programs from sending reading materials, including religious texts and affordable used books, which often hold sentimental value, and eliminates an affordable means for low-income families and community

organizations to share publications with incarcerated loved ones.

In addition, the new Multi-Factor Authentication Mail System requiring registration and control numbers for privileged senders will likely delay or deny attorney-client and crisis communications, undermining constitutional rights of access to courts and counsel. IDOC has not indicated how it will inform or train eligible senders, nor has it addressed whether the system will be ADA-compliant or accessible to those with disabilities, limited internet access, or limited English proficiency.

Finally, IDOC has not provided any cost estimate or identified who will pay for mail scanning. In other states, these costs have been passed on to incarcerated people and their families, which is unacceptable given that mail is often the only affordable form of communication available. Ensuring the safety of those who live and work in IDOC facilities is essential, but restricting or replacing physical mail will not achieve that goal. There is no evidence that these measures increase safety, and in several states overdoses and drug incidents rose after mail scanning was implemented.

For these reasons, we strongly urge IDOC to rescind the emergency amendments to Part 525 and continue allowing incarcerated people to receive physical mail and publications.
Thank you for your attention to this matter.
Respectfully,

Comment:

Nicole Schult, Uptown People's Law Center (Written)
As a attorney at Uptown People's Law Center, a legal aid clinic in Chicago, who has the spent the past 14 years representing people in Illinois prisons, representing virtually all people in custody in Illinois through class action litigation, I'm speaking today in strong opposition to the Illinois Department of Corrections' (IDOC) recent amendments to Part 525 of Title 20 of the Illinois Administrative Code, adopted August 14, 2025 (49 Ill. Reg.
10945).

This policy presents serious risks to the privileged and confidential legal mail that we send to our clients. We represent individuals incarcerated in the IDOC in highly sensitive lawsuits, corresponding with individuals about sexual assaults, medical and mental health issues, retaliation by correctional officers, legal proceedings against IDOC staff, and many other topics. Before the rule went into place, legal mail was to be opened only by the individual in custody and not by correctional officers outside of the view of the recipient. This ensured that discussion of these confidential and privileged topics would not be disclosed to any IDOC staff.

According to the new rule, IDOC will scan all incoming mail, presenting photocopies or digital copies to the individual in custody instead of the original document. There appears to be an exception for legal or privileged mail, but the policy indicates that IDOC may require "verification and security procedures" including a sender ID number and control number obtained from IDOC's "Multi-Factor Authentication Mail System" website. This website is not

yet active, and there is no publicly available information as to how law offices could authenticate legal mail. It is unclear whether legal mail has been or will be scanned and copied with other incoming, non-confidential and privileged mail if law offices fail to authenticate it through these new procedures. While informational sessions on the authentication process are supposedly forth coming, they should be part of the public comment period and not take place after the rule is passed.

At UPLC we send and receive hundreds of pieces of legal correspondence to and from people in custody each month. We are deeply concerned about the potential risk of exposing confidential information to IDOC staff and the administrative burdens and delays that may arise from this new authentication system. Much legal mail is time- sensitive, requiring prompt responses for tight court deadlines. Requiring authentication and additional procedures before our recipients may receive their legal mail may result in harmful delays that could prejudice their ability to seek redress in court. Furthermore,

we are deeply concerned by the risk to our clients and potential clients of IDOC copying and scanning privileged and confidential mail which contains legal allegations against them. The proposed rule fails to consider the serious risk of retaliation caused when IDOC employees gain access to information accusing them of violating a person's legal rights.

There is no need for this rule. IDOC purports that the policy is intended to "prevent smuggling of contraband, hazardous substances, and other prohibited substances or materials into correctional facilities." However, IDOC has failed to present any evidence that contraband and drugs are entering their facilities through mail, much less legal mail. Indeed, through Public Act 104-0412, the IDOC has just recently been subject to a new legal requirement to provide transparency on contraband in their facilities, including how it is being transmitted, and no reports have yet been published. The General Assembly felt it was important to first collect this information and build a response tailored to the findings. This rushed rule is an end run around that effort that will have vast impact on our clients.

Furthermore, I know how important physical mail is to our client population. Mail is often the primary means of communication between individuals in custody and their families, friends and loved ones. It provides a tangible connection to the outside world and a sense of normalcy and support. Such a drastic policy change will lead to longer delays in the delivery of mail - when timely communication is crucial for maintaining family bonds and supporting the reintegration process upon release. This policy will have detrimental effects on the emotional and mental health of individuals in custody, which may potentially exacerbate feelings of isolation and disconnection among a population that is suffering deeply from widespread self-harm and suicides.

We urge JCAR to consider the profound harms of these amendments, particularly to our clients' rights to access confidential legal services and the court system. Please ensure that IDOC justifies its use of the rulemaking process, or rescind this rule to allow for the speedy, confidential processing of legal mail, as well as physical mail from incarcerated persons' loved ones.

Comment:

Nicole Schult, Uptown People's Law Center (Oral, Virtual) (from 11/4 recording)
I am the legal director at Uptown People's Law Center. UPLC is a legal organization located in Chicago. We regularly represent people in custody in Illinois prisons in their civil cases. Due to the number of class actions we and other legal aid partners have brought against the Department of corrections, we basically represent every individual in custody. That means that we have a large volume of legal mail that comes in and out of our office on a regular basis. We are against the mail scanning procedures being proposed these days and I think everyone else has addressed many of our concerns. However, today I'd like to talk about the proposal from IDOC for authenticating and processing legal mail in these new rules. We know that there is an exception to the mail scanning for privileged legal mail. However, we have already seen mail from our clients and to our clients being scanned on the tablets and that causes a real concern with who is having access to the legal mail confidential mail, and the delays that that might be going through for our clients to receive their legal mail, if not only from us but from other lawyers and legal aid organizations. It's unclear what safeguards are being put in place to ensure that legal mail remains confidential. It is important that this legal mail remains confidential because it includes some very sensitive information that if it comes into the hands of various people in the facilities can result in retaliation or private information being disseminated throughout the facilities for our clients. In addition to the lack of safeguards for scanning and identifying legal mail, I also attended the information session about the proposed process for authenticating legal mail. My takeaway from that meeting is that the process is not only unmanageable but unnecessary. As several people have presented today, there is very limited evidence that drugs or contraband or anything of the like is getting into the Department of Corrections facilities through legal mail. The idea that each individual piece of mail that we send into a prison needs to have several layers of authentication is not going to be manageable, not for ourselves, not for other legal aid organizations and other attorneys that have a large volume of mail going into facilities, but also not for the mailroom themselves. This process appears to be a process that will cause significant delays in incarcerated individuals receiving their legal mail, which often has tight deadlines and tight response for times. And so I encourage the Department to rethink the proposal for the authentication of legal mail and to work with us and other legal aid organizations or other attorneys in the state to come up with a plan that is more manageable and less unwieldy and won't result in the delay of the legal mail being delivered to our clients.
Thank you.

Comment:

Ashton Klekamp (Written)
Good morning. My name is Ashton Klekamp and I am the Policy and Research Director for the University
of Illinois' Education Justice Project. While we are a unit of the University, this statement does not

represent the views of the University. Rather, I write on behalf of the leadership team of the Education
Justice Project, a campus entity with a record of nearly 20 years of providing and supporting higher
education in Illinois prisons and witnessing its profound benefits, which flow to incarcerated students,
staff, families, and society as a whole.

I come to you on behalf of the Education Justice Project to express serious concerns with the Illinois
Department of Corrections' proposed amendments to Part 525 of Title 20 of the Illinois Administrative
Code, published October 10, 2025 (49 Ill. Reg. 112657). These amendments significantly restrict mail and
publications for people incarcerated in Illinois, were put forth without supporting data, and, if
implemented, would create substantial new barriers to education.
New restrictions on publications and barriers to education are particularly concerning considering the
acute need to increase access to higher education in Illinois prisons. According to the Illinois Department
of Corrections' recent Higher Education Report, 1,977 individuals living in Illinois prisons last year were
enrolled in postsecondary programs while another 2,047 were on wait lists. Put simply, for every
student sitting in a classroom, another was left outside the door and many of those individuals are left
to wait for years.

For those unable to secure a classroom seat, correspondence courses, independent study, and
self-directed reading are essential alternatives. These alternatives depend on access to mail and
publications. Herein lies our primary concern. The proposed amendments, by restricting how and from
whom incarcerated individuals can receive books, will impede a vital route to education and self-
improvement. We must consider the potential unintended consequences of this restriction on
educational materials and, more importantly, educational endeavors. Prior to the recently
implemented emergency rule, visitors could bring up to five publications per visit.

The proposed amendments would prohibit this and require incarcerated individuals to purchase
publications directly from a publisher, thus raising the cost of reading materials and educational
resources and thereby restricting access to them. All of this is particularly troubling given the absence of
key data to support such amendments. To date, the Illinois Department of Corrections has failed to
provide data or evidence demonstrating how elicit substances enter its facilities or that restricting
access to mail and publications will effectively curb contraband. Public Act 104-0412, signed into law in

August, requires the Illinois Department of Corrections to collect and publish data on what, how, by whom, where and in what ways contraband gets into prisons. Implementing sweeping changes before this data can be collected and shared with the public risks imposing costly and ineffective barriers to education without making a difference with respect to contraband.

Data from other states suggests that imposing such restrictions is not an effective solution to contraband issues. In fact, evidence from Pennsylvania and Missouri demonstrate that the rate of overdoses and drug use increased following restrictions on mail and publications. In order to keep people in prison and prison staff safe from the impacts of contraband and drug use, solutions should be based on the reality of how those drugs are entering facilities. We must resist the urge to begin proposing and implementing purported solutions without the necessary data to support them. The data that is available makes abundantly clear that higher education in prison benefits everyone: it improves safety for incarcerated individuals and staff, supports positive reentry outcomes, and promotes educational gains for children of incarcerated parents. These demonstrated benefits far outweigh the risks of speculative solutions that restrict access to mail and publications. In fact, the proposed amendments would weaken these benefits and make Illinois less safe.

Illinois has made important strides in expanding access to higher education in prison in the past ten years, in large part due to the energetic efforts of Illinois Department of Corrections' educational administrators. However, this process is fragile. Rules that restrict mail and books will slow momentum and undermine bipartisan goals of promoting public safety, strengthening families, and enhancing economic opportunity. Illinois is on its way to being a national leader in expanding educational access in prison. The proposed amendments move us in the opposite direction.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Illinois Department of Corrections to rescind proposed amendments that restrict how incarcerated individuals may receive approved publications and pause additional rulemaking until the legislatively mandated contraband study is available to inform future amendments.

Thank you for your consideration. We applaud the Department for holding this public hearing and stand ready to provide additional information or testimony.

Comment:

Ashton Klekamp (Oral, Virtual)
My name is Ashton Klekamp and I'm the Policy and Research Director with the Education Justice Project at the University of Illinois. While we are a unit of the university, the statement does not represent the views of the university. Rather I speak on behalf of the leadership team of the Education Justice Project, a campus entity with a record of nearly 20 years of providing and supporting higher education in Illinois prisons, and witnessing its profound benefits which flow to incarcerated students, staff, families, and society as a whole. I come to you on behalf of the Education Justice Project to express serious concerns with the proposed amendments published October 10, 2025.

These amendments significantly restrict mail and publications for people incarcerated in Illinois. They were put forth without supporting data and if implemented, they would create substantial new barriers to education. New restrictions on publications and barriers to education are particularly concerning considering the acute need to increase access to higher education in Illinois prisons. According to the Department's recent report,1,977 individuals in Illinois prisons last year were enrolled in post-secondary programs, while another 2,047 individuals were on waitlists for those programs. So put simply for every person in a classroom there's another person left outside the door, and often, as the report reveals many of those individuals are left to wait for years. For those who cannot secure a classroom seat, correspondence courses, independent study, and self-directed reading are essential alternatives. These alternatives depend on access to mail and publications, and this is where our primary concern lies.

The proposed amendments by restricting how and from whom incarcerated individuals can receive books will impede a vital route to education and self-improvement. We must consider the potential unintended consequences of this restriction on educational materials, and more important in people's educational endeavors. Prior to the recently implemented emergency rule, visitors could bring up to five publications per visit. The proposed amendments would prohibit this and require incarcerated individuals to purchase publications directly from a publisher, thus raising the cost of reading materials and educational resources, and thereby restricting access to them. All of this is particularly troubling given the absence of key data to support such amendments. To date, the Department has failed to provide data or evidence demonstrating how elicit substances enter its facilities or that restricting access to mail and publications would effectively curve the contraband issue. As mentioned by other testifiers, Public Act 104-0412, which was signed into law in August requires the department to collect and publish data on how and in what ways contra band gets into prisons. Implementing sweeping changes before the status collected and shared with the public risks imposing costly and ineffective barriers to education without making a difference with respect to contraband. Again, as mentioned before, data from other states suggests that imposing these restrictions is not an effective solution. Evidence from Pennsylvania and Missouri demonstrate that the rate of overdoses and drug use

increased following the implementation of these restrictions. So I would urge us to remember that in order to keep people in prison and prison staff safe from the impacts of contraband and drug use, these solutions have to be based on the reality of how those drugs are entering facilities. We have to resist the urge to begin proposing and implementing purported solutions without the necessary data to support them.

The data that is available makes abundantly clear that higher education in prison benefits everyone. It improves safety for incarcerated individuals and staff, supports positive reentry outcomes, and promotes educational gains for children of incarcerated parents. These demonstrated benefits far outweigh the risks of speculative solutions that restrict access to male and publications. Our state has made really important strides in expanding access to education in prison in recent years, in large part due to the energetic efforts of the department's educational administrators. We note that this process is fragile. Rules that restrict mail and books will slow momentum and undermine by partisan goals of promoting public safety, strengthening families and enhancing economic opportunity. Illinois on its way to being a national leader in expanding educational access in prisons, and the proposed amendments move us in the wrong direction. For these reasons, we respectfully urge the department to rescind proposed amendments that restrict how incarcerated individuals can receive approved publications and pause additional rule making until the legislatively mandated study is available to inform future amendments. Thank you for your time and your consideration. We applaud the department for holding this public hearing and we're ready to provide additional input or testimony as needed.

Comment:

Emma Ruth, Cabrini Green Legal Aid (Written)
My name is Emma Ruth, I am the Policy Manager at Cabrini Green Legal Aid and a close friend of a person who is serving a life sentence in the Illinois Department of Corrections. I am writing to vocalize my concerns about the proposed amendments to the IDOC mail policy.

As a policy advocate, I am deeply concerned with the wellbeing of all people who live and work in prisons. I take seriously the risk of overdoses and dangerous contraband. Part of my job is to glean insights from the implementation of policies in other states. Thankfully, there are a number of case studies that we can draw from, as Illinois would not be the first state to implement mail scanning.

Missouri and Pennsylvania have both moved to mail scanning in recent years, and in both states, mail scanning failed to address the problem of drugs in prisons. In Pennsylvania prisons, incarcerated people tested positive for drugs three times more often after the state implemented mail scanning. In Missouri, there was an increase in the number of drug overdoses after mail scanning was implemented. I believe in data-driven policy solutions. Overwhelmingly, data suggest that drugs enter prisons through staff, not mail. In other words, there is no data to suggest that scanning incoming mail will reduce the flow of drugs into prisons.

This issue is personal to me, as well. My dear friend I.M has been incarcerated for over a decade

on a life sentence. He is an incredible artist, and while I'm not nearly as talented as him, our shared love of making art is one of the things that connects us. I.M's art is amazing because he uses tape to add physical texture to his work, lifting his vision up and off the page. I try to reciprocate, to send him mail that will make his heart sing as much as his does mine. Always attentive to texture, the indentation of my handwriting is often what makes my mail feel so personal to him. A scanned photo of something I've made him will never do it justice and will exacerbate the isolation he feels inside.

Given the nature of his sentence, we don't get to look forward to his outdate. Phone calls, occasional visits, and physical letters are all that we have. He is estranged from his family of origin, and his isolation as well as his diagnosed mental illness, make each day a challenge for him. Sometimes he is so depressed that he won't leave his cell for days. I worry about him every day, about his mental health, about his strength, his ability to survive this long sentence. Taking away this small fragment of human touch will only make his mental illness worse, and make my worries grow. I know that I.M is not the only one in this situation. Thousands of people incarcerated in IDOC rely on these small things, something as simple as feeling the indentations of a pen, to feel connected to their loved ones back home. Connections with people on the outside help incarcerated people find hope, center themselves in hard moments, and stay connected to their goals: to learn, grow, and come home a better person. Data show that maintaining connections to people outside greatly reduces one's likelihood of a behavioral infraction, increasing safety for incarcerated people and staff alike.

Please, do not impose this needless rule and increase the distance between us. I implore you to find solutions that actually address the drug issue at hand, and to recognize that supporting the bonds between incarcerated people and their loved ones back home is an essential health and safety measure.

Thank you,
Emma Ruth

Comment:

Emma Ruth, Cabrini Green Legal Aid (Oral, Virtual) (from 11/4 recording)
Hi everyone. My name is Emma Ruth and I am the Policy Manager at Cabrini Green Legal Aid where many of my colleagues or attorneys who regularly correspond with incarcerated clients. I'm also a close friend of a person who is serving a life sentence in the Illinois Department of Corrections. I appreciate the opportunity to provide my comments today. Thank you all for being here. I'm here to vocalize my opposition to the proposed amendments to the IDOC mail policy. As a policy advocate, I am deeply concerned with the wellbeing of all people who live and work in prisons. I takes seriously the risk of overdoses and dangerous contra band. Part of my job is to glean insights from the implementation of policies in other states, and thankfully there are a number of case studies that we can draw from as Illinois would not be the 1st state to implement male scanning.

As others have stated Missouri and Pennsylvania have both moved to scan male in recent years,

and in both states male scanning failed to address the of drugs in prisons. In Pennsylvania prisons, incarcerated people tested positive for drugs three times more often after the state implemented mail scanning, then in Missouri there was an increase in the number of drug overdoses after mail scanning was implemented. I believe in data driven policy solutions. Overwhelmingly, data suggests that drugs enter prisons through staff, not mail. In other words, there's no data to suggest that scanning incoming mail will reduce the flow of drugs into prisons. In Pennsylvania, Missouri and other states policymakers and department employees have many of the same circulative policy conversations as the one we are having right now. Like Illinois, these states did not have the data to support male scanning as a drug production solution. And as a result, these states wasted funds and resources on programs that exacerbated incarcerated people's isolation and failed to address drug use in prisons or make employees or incarcerated people safer.

The Department of Corrections in Illinois has an opportunity to avoid Missouri and Pennsylvania's mistakes by exploring data driven alternatives. I was glad to hear earlier that the proposed rules will also be accompanied by closer scrutiny and searching of vendors and staff, and I urge the department to consider starting with these interventions, studying the impacts before revisiting mail scanning. I want to echo Nicole's comments from earlier, my colleagues or attorneys who rely heavily on legal mail to correspond with our clients and they have serious concerns about six amendment violations created by any added impediments to the legal mail process.

This issue is personal to me as well. My dear friend Ayem has been incarcerated for over a decade on a life sentence. He's an incredible artist and while I'm not nearly as talented as him, our shared love of making art is one of the things that connects us. Ayem's art is amazing because he uses tape to add physical texture to his work, lifting his vision up and off the page. I try to reciprocate to send him mail that will make his heart sing as much as his does mind. Always attentive to texture, the indentation of my hand writing is often what makes my mail feel so personal to him. A scanned photo of something I've made him will never do it justice and will exacerbate the isolation he feels inside. Given the nature of his sentence, we don't get to look forward to his outdate. Phone calls, occasional visits, the physical letters are all that we have. He is a estranged from his family of origin, and his isolation as well as his diagnosed mental illness make each day a challenge for him. Sometimes he is so depressed that he won't leave himself for days. I worry about him every day about his mental health, about his strength, about his ability to survive this long sentence. Taking away the small fragment of human touch will not only make his mental illness worse and make my worry, it will make my words grow. I know that Ayem is not the only one in this situation. Thousands of people incarcerated in IDOC rely on these small things, something as simple as feeling the indentations of the pen to feel connected to their loved ones back home. Connections with people on the outside help incarcerated people find hope, center themselves in hard moments, and stay connected to their goals, to learn, to grow, to come home a better person. Data show that maintaining connections to people outside greatly reduces one's behavior or likelihood of a behavioral infraction, increasing safety for incarcerated people and staff alike.

Please do not impose this needless rule and increase the distance between us. I implore you to find solutions that actually address the drug issue at hand and to recognize that supporting the

bonds between incarcerated people and their loved ones back home is an essential health and safety measure. Thank you.

Comment:

Kim Schultz (Oral, Virtual)

Comment:

Jeremy Hammond (Oral, In-person)
Alright y'all My name is Jeremy Hammond. I am speaking to you today as an individual who's done over twelve years in prison, as well as someone who's a volunteer at organization Midwest Books to Prisoners in Chicago. For 20 years we've sent and shared reading materials with people across the so-called United States including people at IDOC. We've been very frustrated with IDOC's complete unwillingness to engage in stakeholders who are at stake in this situation with mail scanning. On incoming publications, you did not even bother to notify people inside or solicit any opinions of people who have been or are in prison. Fortunately, we have done extensive research on this. We've conducted a survey of over 1200 people, and we've compiled this into a censorship report, which is on our website. We've gotten data, like you'll talk about the data. Check this out, we got 2023 and 2024 confiscation data as well as drug exposure data from IBOC. So, I want to speak a little bit about that because I want to push back against this narrative that these guards, unions and these politicians are saying that these guards are having overdose experiences in the mail room by simply handling the mail. We're talking about someone said 20 cops went to the hospital. There is absolute zero possibility that this is happening. It is time for the legislator and IDOC to stop lying to the public. That if you ask any dr. and any toxicologist that is literally impossible for anyone to have any type of exposure or overdose from simply handling the physical mail. So we looked at the data and it turns out that when IDOC spoke to JCAR a few months ago, they lied when they said that most of the drugs are coming in through the mail when the exposure and conversation data shows that it is not coming from the mail.

Our organization has had thousands of books rejected over the years especially in the past year or two for the most frivolous reasons for something as a stain or a yellowed page or hard covered books were quietly removed from, incoming publications without any engagement or public comment on that. And this is all part of this alleged war on drugs, but we have the data we publish the data. I also want to speak about like the importance of physical mail behind bars. Like, look, so I did over twelve years in prison and I want to say that like incoming mail and books is a lifeline of communication If you take away people's mail, the deaths are going to be on your hands. It is actually going to perpetuate The Cycle of despair and dehumanization which contributes. Y'all are coming at this with restrictions and heavy-handed warrant drugs rhetoric and lying about the books in the mail. I want to quote for some of the responses that we've gotten from some of the people throughout IDOC.

In the last two months, we've only had 2-yard days, and I've only been able to get to the law library twice in that time. That's because of the lockdown these so-called exposures. If I can't do legal research or work on my case, if I can't draw or paint because of lack of materials opportunities, if I can't read any books in the library or incoming publications, they don't want me to receive Please don't compound this by censoring our mail or preventing us from receiving mail or publications because they mean to us more in prison than I could describe in words.

I also wanted to point out that like if y'all are going to do these tablets and stuff like that y'all are using group punishment, taking away tablets because someone's smoking in the shower and stuff like that. There is actually a coalition for books coming through the mail. If I can't play cards otherwise keep my mind occupied, if I can't get out of myself to exercise, then what else is there for any of us to turn to but drugs are violence? The policies and the actions IDOC are driving more and more people to drugs. Patients have produced best practices for tablets and e carcel readers and incarcerable settings. You're not supposed to be doing this pay to plaything, you're not supposed to replace physical visits or replace books because you have these tablets I've been in prisons where they've done that. They've replaced physical visits because they have these tablet systems for these private corporations. Why don't they have a word processor on this tablet? Why doesn't it have access to the outgoing internet? Why are you just like using this pay to play games and this glorified text service and not even email? Like, these tablets are not it, they're not actually providing the rehabilitation and educational opportunities that technology has a path, but y'all are just again the guards are not going to the hospital and having overdoses, right?

The report that's quoted is entirely up substantiated. It even says in the report itself, there is NO clear and reliable data available for public review regarding proliferation of drugs. This is just some fake *** website bug spray and paper.com is not even up his warrant drugs and restrictions are blaming the books and the mail from what, and everybody knows that these guards are like. Majority of the time for actual drug testing confirmation. I want answers for the thousands of books we had rejected that you had said was. To do drug test results, you did not bother sending the ISP. I want to know like how many people have been sent to the whole allegedly having drugs like in the mail or on their possession simply because of these presumptive testing.

Comment:

Allison Farnum, Unitarian Universalist Prison Ministry of Illinois (??)
On behalf of the Unitarian Universalist Prison Ministry of Illinois, we submit these comments on proposed amendments to Rights and Privileges (20 IAC 525; 49 Ill Reg 12657). I serve as the Minister and Director.

UU Pen Pals of Illinois is a volunteer-led group for whom I provide pastoral support. The near one hundred free-world pen pals I minister to are heartbroken that this emergency ruling has taken place that restricts physical mail from entering IDOC facilities. Every year, the UU Pen Pals of Illinois send in nearly four hundred holiday cards to their inside members as an act of

connection and care with fellow people of faith who happened to be locked up.

We care about substance abuse disorders in prison. We know how hard it is for our inside members who want to stay clean, to stay clean. We care about the well-being of staff who come into contact with toxic fumes and people in custody who are unwell with substance abuse disorders. And, there is no substantive data to show, in the twenty-five states that have banned physical mail in DOCs, that contraband and drug abuse have decreased in a meaningful way. In fact, some states that ban physical mail in their DOCs still show a higher rate of substance abuse. So why are we not seeing robust and comprehensive treatment programs being implemented as quickly as possible? If anything, the need for substance abuse treatment programming is the real emergency! The free world pen pal program participants I support know more than anyone how important it is to get mail from friends and loved ones, as well as letters from fellow sojourners in our Unitarian Universalist faith journey. We have many concerns. What about those in custody who are in reception or in solitary? How can we guarantee that those folx are getting lifeline communications? And what about privileged communications between clergy and locked-up parishioners? God's Love knows no walls, but I am so saddened to see how much more suffering this emergency ruling has created by creating more barriers for our ministry! And what a travesty for one of our inside members to not have access to scanned mail beyond 6 months of tablet storage. Mail from loved ones provides a touchpoint of sanity in the daily challenges of prison life. The emergency ruling needs to be rescinded as there is no empirical data (from third party sources outside of DOC and AFSCME anecdotes) to support that the physical mail ban ruling is efficacious.

DOC has the burden of proof to show hard evidence that what DOC is doing is going to really make a difference in reducing contraband. We want IDOC employees and those who are incarcerated to stay healthy, but this ruling will have no bearing on reducing this harm. IDOC can and must do better.

Comment:

Katrina Baugh (Oral, Virtual)
Hello, I apologize. I had reached out on behalf of Dr. Shaneva McReynolds, who is the president of FAM. She was hoping to share about her testimony, which includes correspondence with her husband who was incarcerated at the time when they got married and the significance of the physical male and what that meant for their relationship that he was able to have the things that were actually from her that she had held, that she had touched, that she had written lovingly that that was something that he could hold physically that he could use to decorate the walls of his cell. Those things are extremely emotionally significant and really significant for individuals who are incarcerated. And so, I believe if Shaneva were able to be here today, what she would say is just to wait for the data to come in, see where the contraband is coming from and propose a solution that will actually address the problem. Thank you so much.

Comment:

Nick Mclaughin, AFSCME (Oral, In-person)
Good morning. My name's Nick Mclaughin I'm a correctional officer with 15 years of experience. For the past twelve years I've been employed at Graham Correctional Center located in Hillsborough. I'm here today to offer my experience working at Graham and how mail scanning has impacted me and my coworkers. For those of you that don't know Graham Correctional Center is medium security adult male facility. What's unique about Graham is it houses special several special populations, including substance abuse treatment and individuals in custody in a kidney dialysis program. Graham also offers numerous academic and vocational programs. When I 1st started at Graham twelve years ago, it was relatively free of conflict. Incarcerated persons had been relatively free movement, and for the most part it was a calm environment. Assaults on staff were rare, and overdoses and exposures were also rare. Things have changed dramatically in recent years due to the increased presence of drugs, with mail being a known point of entry, exposures to unknown substance and assaults increased and became regular occurrences. In one mass exposure, 22 employees were sent to hospitals for treatment with several of them having to spend the night. Encounters with incarcerated individuals under the influence of substances became a daily occurrence. It's much more difficult to maintain order when individuals are intoxicated. They are confused, unpredictable, and can react. Violently. In my facility, the majority of assaults on staff involve drugs.

Now that the mail scan has been implemented, incidents evolving intoxicated individuals are down to one to two times a week rather than a daily occurrence. I've seen big improvements since mail scans started. feel a hundred percent that mail scan has made us safer and I can see that morale is much better. There is something we have been fighting for to get for over two years. We're all very happy to have a safer environment for the staff and individual individuals incarcerated. Thank you.

Comment:

Jodi Rabich Frailey, Rbroken Systems (Oral, In-person)
Hi. I have some concerns about the mail scanning. Our loved ones, the mail is so important to us and to them, for very person. No connections on all levels. My brother spent time in DOC, he got out and now he's deceased. Everything that he had sent me made for me, and he made is very dear. There's nothing left of him but that, that's what they need. My loved one is in DOC. And everything he sends to me. When I get depressed or upset, it cheers me up and it makes me feel good and my kids. I understand the safety of the correction officers need to be addressed, but we need to come together and figure something out that is reasonable and affordable because me sending him these messages are getting to be too much money for us, especially in homes where people are on disability or low income. So, we need to figure something out and come together with this. That's what I have to say.

Comment:

Joanne Webb-Gauvin, AFSCME Council 31 (Oral, In-person)
Hi, my name is Joanna Webb-Gauvin. I'm the political and legislative director for AFSCME

Council 31. We thank you for the opportunity to come up and give public comments here today. Mail scan has been something that we have been working, our union has been working with the department on for some time. It Wasn't the 1st solution that we evaluated at one point we were looking at, you know, was there technology out there that would test the mail for substances so we wouldn't have to go to this point? Unfortunately, the research dictated that because there wasn't the technology to simply keep up with the evolution of synthetic drugs in the masking agencies. There was NO avenue for us to use technology to detect substances.

Also, there are some substances entering the facilities such as wasp spray where there just isn't a test for it. And so, you know, the committee labor management committee, you know, came up with scanning mail as a way to make sure that drugs were not getting into that facility. I did, we do have with me today two of our presidents from our, one from our local, from Graham correctional facility Nick Mclaughin and then to Neil Fitzerald from ours. Lawrence, correctional center to talk a little bit about what their experience has been in the facilities for the last couple of years. If it's ok if I could sure we have both of them.

Comment:

Neil Fitzerald, AFSCME (Oral, In-person)
Hello, good morning. My name is Neil Fitzerald I'm the president of local 3600. I represent the employees of Lawrence Correctional Center, and I am also a correctional counselor too. We are a maximum-security adult male prison in Summer, Illinois. My office as a counselor is in the cellhouse with the individuals in custody. I work with the general population. I serve as a go between for the individuals in custody and other departments throughout our facility. I do a lot of casework, I meet with everybody in my housing unit on my caseload once every six, three days minimally on a rotating basis. Prior to mail scan being implemented in our facility, you couldn't walk into a housing unit without smelling the accurate burning smell of chemicals or paper or smoke in the cell houses, and sometimes it was so bad that you could even see the smoke haze on the wings. Every month we would have employees who are out of work because of exposures to these unknown substances. Staff members have been medically evaluated and experienced symptoms and after for effects that have kept them out of work for weeks and even months. It's really disheartening to stand next to somebody one day and then the next day watch them, go out in an ambulance. Even worse is when it has gotten so common in our institution that people say things like, oh, it's just another exposure.

I've worked for the Illinois Department Corrections at Lawrence Correctional Center for 13 years and when I started my career drugs were a very rare occurrence in our facility, I can't even recall. When I 1st started this being an issue, prior to the drugs entering Lawrence, I felt as safe as I could possibly be in prison. The exploding presence of drugs has created a volatile environment. When incarcerated individuals are intoxicated, they sometimes don't even know where they're at and they're in and out of reality and even consciousness. When we do speak to them, they have NO idea sometimes where they are and they're very unpredictable. Unfortunately, the drugs that the incarcerated individuals are using cannot be tested for because often it's chemicals like bug spray or wasp spray that are being smoked and there are currently NO tests, to my knowledge

that are available to detect such substances.

The combination between drugs and short staffing has resulted in. There being more and more attacks on staff and outbreaks of violence among the incarcerated individuals. As a union president I can share that members are relieved that mail scan has been implemented, the haze and the smoke present in the housing units has already been reduced substantially. It is a relief to not leave work with a headache every day. Since scanning the mail, we have gone an entire week with NO incidents involving intoxicated individuals. I think it's been two years to my knowledge that we've been able to go that long with NO meeting on this. No drug related incidents. Mail scan is making things better for the staff and individual individuals housed at Lawrence Correctional Center. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak today.

Comment:

Juanita Hernandez, PR Reform (Oral, In-person, Written)
Hello everybody. Good. My name is Juanita Hernandez and I'm here representing the organization that me and my husband started a year ago, we call it PR Reform. My 1st question is, what does IDOC consider a drug exposure?

in the last meeting I believe it was in September, somebody said that we were going to be charged for this mail scanning process Through the tablet use, but we don't have subscriptions, but we have music and messages and stuff like that. Somebody did say that last meeting that that's how the mail scanning process would be paid for, which is not right for us. We Didn't agree on that, we weren't asked anything. I don't feel like I'm here because IDOC technically invited me here. I feel like I'm here because the representatives and J Car put it out there that we are invited to come speak.

So, for years, the correction officers have been on Facebook implying that drugs have been entering facilities. Why hasn't the mail scanning implemented been inflated years ago? IDOC's data on drug exposures is unreliable and not promising. Reports showed that 409 staff exposures and 669 suspected inmate exposures but NO inmate deaths And NO reports of officer deaths. But families are constantly told their loved one's deaths are drug related, that none of that adds up to me or any of the inmates that I have interviewed. We need a 3rd party agency to handle all data in my reports. I personally know how false reporting happens that is used to justify punishing inmates or families as that has been done to myself by false reporting.

The union protects the officers, but nobody protects us, the families or the incarcerated. The only people that protect incarcerated people are the families when we don't argue that the drug problem is there. We are told that we, we know it's there. We just don't think that the way that this has gone about is fair at all. We weren't asked anything there's also reports of people passing out and I just want to know if you guys have ever entered a facility and seen that they were doing the process correctly. Are they wearing gloves? Are they wearing mask or anything that they should be wearing? Because if it's such a problem in the housing units. Why are the inmates told that they have to go clean up the throw up from an overdose? That's not fair. So, then you're not trying to protect the inmates, you're just protecting the staff that is claiming these reports.

It's just very hard to see our loved ones without everything that they already don't have, there's people in there for very long sentences. Me, myself, like my daughter grew up without her father. So that's how they connect with each other. Do visits, that's taken away. Phone calls, that's restricted whenever the facility wants to do what they want to do. I don't feel like IDOC understands how the facilities are run because of the reporting. The people that are doing the reports are the people that are also online calling the family members trash We are not trash. We want the same respect that they want from us. So, I believe that there should be x ray machines because we can't be to blame for all of this, and then the officers that are caught are able to walk out or resign. We hear about it all the time. Maybe you guys don't hear about it, but we do hear about it often.

So, if we're being checked, how come they're not being checked with the x ray machine, that causes a lot of problems to the families because we're looked at, now we go home too, you know, officers go home, so do we? But why are we being disrespected in a way we have to pay for this?

Comment:
Juanita Hernandez (written)

Public Testimony on IDOC Mail Scanning and Family Impact

Good morning and thank you for the opportunity to speak.
My name is Juanita Hernandez. I am here representing PRREFORM, an organization that my husband and I began a year ago. I'm here as a wife, a family member and advocate for incarcerated individuals and their loved ones. Where my statement initiates many conversations and discussions with incarcerated individuals in Illinois. I want to speak about the ongoing issues surrounding IDOC's mail scanning, reporting, and communication policies that deeply affect families like mine.

For years, correctional officers have been on social media speaking about drugs entering facilities. If that concern was truly urgent, why wasn't mail scanning implemented years ago? Instead, the solution now being forced on families is unconstitutional—it halts mail and violates our right to communicate with our loved ones. Mail can be paused for legitimate reasons, but only if done transparently and tested properly. What we see instead are untested procedures, false reports, and officers doing as they please,, with no accountability. I mean this for reasons of mail not being delivered- sometimes at all- either way.

Representative Tarver mentioned that facilities like Menard and Hill stopped mail entirely, yet IDOC claimed they didn't know about it. That alone proves there is no oversight or follow-up. Families can't trust a system that hides behind inconsistent stories and self-written reports.

IDOC's own numbers don't add up. They reported 409 staff "exposures" and 669 suspected inmate exposures—but no inmate deaths. Meanwhile, families constantly receive notices saying their loved one's death was "drug related." Those two things cannot both be true. This shows why we need a third-party agency to handle all reporting and investigations.

I personally know how false reports happen, and how they're used to justify punishing inmates and silencing families, as this has been a form of retaliation against my husband and I for using our voices.

If IDOC truly believes drugs are entering through mail, my question is simple:
Do you know if the mailrooms are handling mail correctly? Do they have gloves and masks? Have you made unannounced visits to all facilities? Because if drugs are still slipping through, then someone is not doing their job. And for the record—drug-laced paper must be lit on fire to be activated or put into the body. The idea that an officer "passed out" from touching paper is simply not realistic.

AFSCME, the union, protects officers. But who protects the families and incarcerated individuals? We do—and we don't agree with what's happening. IDOC's new policies protect staff, not inmates. If they truly cared about inmate safety, incarcerated people wouldn't be the ones cleaning up after overdoses. And if mail was so dangerous, why aren't their cellmates "passing out," too?

Meanwhile, families like mine are being financially drained. Tablets cost $120 upfront, even if they break on their own. Inmates even receive disciplinary tickets for broken devices. And in Illinois, families are charged $6 for just five hours of movies, games, or music—by far the highest rate compared to states like Ohio, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Families can't even send money directly for this; everything must be bought through commissary at inflated prices. These are unfair costs thrown onto people already suffering from separation and long sentences. We are being financially punished without consent while simply trying to stay connected with our loved ones. Imagine if one cannot afford a new tablet, how will they receive mail?

privileged mail, like letters from attorneys, often doesn't reach those inside because officers know what it is and hold it against them. Some mail has been denied for something as small as a stain on the envelope. Children write and draw for their parents as a form of hope, as an escape from their reality. Stopping mail denies them that connection. Mail is a lifeline, not a threat.

If the concern is truly safety, then where are the X-ray machines for everyone? Visitors go through intense checks—why aren't officers held to the same standard? Officers can walk away, resign, and still go online calling our loved one's "animals" and us "trash." Yet we're told we have to pay for *their* safety through new fees and restrictions. We all go home at the end of the day, and every person—officer, inmate, and family—deserves respect.

IDOC recently said that "no one asked for data," which is unprofessional and unacceptable. They refuse to go through the legislative process because that would mean families and advocates could have a voice. At the last meeting, IDOC made no effort to include or speak with us. Instead, they only met with AFSCME—the same group that protects officers who insult us publicly online. That's not transparency. That's control.

Stakeholders and legislators who support this policy mainly come from southern Illinois, where many IDOC employees live and work. They post about "drug exposures" as if inviting ideas, but if they were truly communicating with advocates, we'd see those conversations shared publicly.

We are also constituents, and our voices matter.

If the highest form of contraband is supposedly mail, then apply fairness equally across the system. Don't silence communication between families. Don't distract the public with games and movies while stripping away our right to connection.

Please don't let our words be useless.
Thank you for listening and for giving families a chance to be heard.

Respectfully,
Juanita Hernandez
www.prreform24.org

-notes after meeting
IDOC representative gives different numbers for exposures when asked.
No real idea of how staff contraband will be detected
No decrease in "drug exposures"
Woman that spoke (officer?) said 1-2 years ago she felt things were better working in the prisons… HOW? If officers were complaining about drug issues for many years now (very untrustworthy)
Mass incarceration- truth in sentencing should be eliminated to help this issue. HB2367.
Therapy is essential. Illinois simply locked people up with no help!

Comment:
Lynette Otto, Consultant (Oral, In-person)
I am a consultant for FOP launch 2603, and our question, although there's many, and I'm sure you receive correspondence lately, you need to know who the key players are that need to be talked to about the issues in the prisons. FOP, at least corrections on 2603 has repeatedly tried to get in front of Miss Hughes to help or at least hear concerns both on from both sides and that has not happened. It's been several months trying. So, we want to know how it's determined who the key players are and also there's going to be a gap between when the emergency order was issued and I think you spoke of that at JCAR and when the permanent rule takes effect and how that's going to be handled, I think when you spoke, the gap was critical.

An attorney that came with misuse indicated that they could not continue. It's holding of mail if I'm correct during that period of time. So, is it going to revert back to original operations at that time? And that's it.

Comment:

Wendell Robinson, Restore Justice Foundation (Oral, In-person)
Good morning. All right. Thank you for this opportunity to testify this morning. My name is Wendell Robinson, and I'm the Executive Director of Restore Justice Foundation. Restore Justice is a statewide policy organization that advocates for fairness, human quality and compassion

throughout the Illinois criminal legal system. I would like to thank the department for this recent engagement with Restore Justice regarding our concerns about the proposed permanent rules for scanning mail and screening of published materials. However, Restore Justice remains opposed mail scanning for everyone in the Illinois Department of corrections.

Other than in person visits, mail is the only simples of a tangible connection to home in a highly isolating environment of prison. It is a significant lifeline and one of the most important means to maintain connection to loved ones. People often read and reread mail to remind them of their support system. To digitize physical mail is to eliminate the arpen, beauty and emotion, the texture, and even a scent of unique, even a sent that is unique to physical correspondence.

Additionally, there is NO evidence to support that the proposed permanent rules will be effective in stopping Contra from entering the IDOC. In some states. Drug use and overdose have increased after implementation of mail scanning policies. According to a 2023 pinned live article by Zach Hoop's title and I quote, nearly five years after inmate mail scanning policy two took effect Pennsylvania prison drug problems remained. The drugs problem in in Pennsylvania state prisons has worsened across multiple metrics since the mail scanning procedures were implemented. Five years after the policy took effect, the rate of incarcerated people in Pennsylvania who tested positive during random drug screens had nearly tripled compared to pre implementation. Senate Bill 2201 now public act 104-4121 requires the department to publish on his website, beginning 1 August 2027. Data that identified How contraband is entering facilities. Among other key indicators that will help shape and effectively save policy to protect staff and residents. DOC’s implementation of mail scanning before this data is collected and evaluated is premature. It will have negative impact on people who are incarcerated and their families without showing any evidence of products.

Given DOC’s procedures, and decision to move forward with mail scanning rule, Restore Justice would like to highlight several concerns with pending permanent rules on mail scanning introduced by DOC to JCAR on 10 October of 20 2051, original physical mail that does not contain contraband should be returned to the receiver. If it cannot be returned, people should have access to the mail at some point in the future without limitations. Although the DOC is currently photocopying mail when people request when it may be sustainable when a 3rd party vendor is contracted for mail scanning. Being able to hold and maintain original mail from a loved one is significant is a significant form of support during isolation in prison. Decades of academic research support this insight with robust evidence that visits mail, phone, and other forms of family contact have meaningful positive impact on the people who are incarcerated, better health, better behavior, and better post release outcomes including being less likely to return to prison after release.

For many. Including myself, who spent 25 years incarcerated, and countless others who have returned home the letter we received inside contain continue to provide strength in the purpose long after relieving. Destroying these personal connections serve NO legitimate security purpose. For these reasons. Because we urge that the original mail be returning to a descendant after scanning rather than being destroyed. When there is NO evidence of contraband, two mail scanning should not increase the cost of mail, which is currently the most affordable method of communication. Most people are incarcerated far from home, and mail is often the least

expensive and most used way for them to stay in touch with their loved ones. Replacing this vital formal family contact with the mail scanning only. Aspirates the humanization. Okay, but we plan to give these after the hearing we plan to provide these written concerns and what it is that I've just said, so thank you for your time and have a good. Thank you.

(continued based on additional written commentary provided following public hearing)

Most people are incarcerated far from home, and mail is often the least expensive and most-used way for them to stay in touch with their loved ones. Replacing this vital form of family contact with mail scanning only exacerbates the dehumanization that people who are incarcerated already experience. Mail scanning increases costs for loved ones while major telecommunication companies profit.

Mail scanning imposes additional and unnecessary financial burdens on incarcerated people and their loved ones. While the Illinois Department of Corrections (DOC) testified before JCAR that the cost of mail scanning is cost-neutral, we urge the Department to ensure that these expenses are fully borne by the agency—not by people who are incarcerated or their families.

Additionally, the DOC has the ability to impose limits on the number of pages it chooses to photocopy or scan—restrictions that could unintentionally increase costs for loved ones through higher postage expenses. We urge that neither the DOC nor any entity acting on its behalf be permitted to limit the number of pages of correspondence that can be scanned or photocopied.

For instance, in Florida, where mail scanning was introduced in 2022, people who are incarcerated are required to pay a fee per page to have their mail printed. It costs $0.10 per page to print in black and white and $1.00 per page to print in color. In North Carolina, family and friends sending mail to their loved ones in prison need to download an app to send letters or cards for scanning and pay a fee to have these documents sent.

Mail scanning inevitably results in restrictions, delays, and a loss of sentimental value. These drawbacks often push people who are incarcerated and their loved ones to rely on alternative, more expensive forms of communication. For example, there is a cost associated with sending or receiving emails in prison, making it one of the few places in the world where people must pay to email. Moreover, email and other communication systems are frequently operated by the same major telecommunications companies that manage mail scanning services, allowing these corporations to profit from the additional financial burdens placed on families.
We share the Department’s concern for protecting the safety of everyone who lives and works at DOC. However, we urge you to consider rulemaking that utilizes evidence-based solutions and data to address contraband issues effectively, thereby minimizing the harm to the rehabilitation and support of the nearly 30,000 people impacted by this draconian policy change.
Thank you for the opportunity to testify. After the hearing, Restore Justice will submit detailed written testimony outlining numerous outstanding questions and concerns that we don’t have time to discuss in this forum. We look forward to DOC’s response to both our oral and written testimony.
Please don’t hesitate to contact me to further our dialogue about the Department’s transition to mail scanning.

Comment:

Diane Chaves, (Oral, Virtual)
Can you hear me? Thank you for the opportunity to address everyone. I want to communicate information from my own experience in that of my friends who are both in Dixon and in Graham and have been for years serving long term sentences. Before IDOC switched to ICS, inmates had tablets in relatively stable phone online visitation and email service through Securus and GTL. Today none of these exist. Securus offers tablets and mails scanning via its day digital mail service in Florida. And as of 2022, at least New Mexico signed up with it. Male is sent to Securus in Florida, and it scans emails and copies it for inmates at the then cost of $3.50 per inmate, no matter how much mail the person gets. IDOC instead went with IC Solutions and doesn't seem to have done much research except speak to Ohio. Securus phones sometimes had issues, but ICS most always does, the cost is more expensive for families and inmates and putting money on the books can be treated as a cash advanced by your credit card. Additionally, when calling families using family accounts, inmates are privy to learning exactly how much money the family member has on their account. Since when is that any of their business? The ICS online visitation service may even be illegal. GTL visitation had a separate channel vetting visitors and one showed one's ID online to a prisoned visitation coordinator prior to the start of any visit. With ICS that vetting happens live at the start of every online visit and the inmate is privy to and sees each visitor ID. Not an ideal C security issue in violation of visitor confidentiality? I don't even want my friends seeing my IDs much less any other IDOC inmate. ICS tablets are becoming more functional, but the tablets service and signal is not as thorough as IDOC claims. One of my friends is currently in a far building at Dixon and he has NO internet service whatsoever in his cell. He was down a corridor, around a corner, down another corridor, and around a bed from the day room area, but he has to shut himself off in the laundry room and cram his tablet in the window in order to use him. He and like a large number of growing other inmates is hard of hearing. He has a hearing aid and IDOC won't issue heard of hearing inmates special headphones that ICS installers told them would be made available for them to work with their hearing aids unless they first also get an audio evaluation at which can take months. My friend arrived at Dixon a few months ago with a hearing aid, an obvious hearing aid, and despite the obvious loss of his hearing has to wait 3 minutes for phone calls on the tablet are nice, but the call quality of his tablet calls is terrible. A lot of reverberation sounding like he is in a tunnel. It is difficult to understand all he says and hard for him to hear and guess at what I what he says. He has to fight to get the, the wall phone usage and if the tablets were working all that well for phones, there would not be quite that demand for wall phone usage as it still is at Dixon. Inmates also had email service through GTL, it was reliable and worked virtually the same as email out in the community. Your account listed emails by date. In subject heading, you could click on email to bring it up and read it copy and paste from it and print it out to save. Towards the end, emails did take days and sometimes a week to transmit and be vetted by prison staff, but well that was because they apparently had no time limits to impose. Core link's chat messaging service contracted by ICS is a chat service, not an email service. Chats appear online in one continuous scroll and are not differentiated, that makes it difficult to find any particular chat, and it cannot be isolated to view, nor can one print copy or paste from a chat or even the entire scroll. Chats are supposed to take 24 h to transmit but often take up to four days or more and then message chats also appear on a sequence. Chat is not email. Since COVID and over time without

directions, IDOC has almost completely stopped inmate mail. Inmates haven't gotten mail on a regular basis and without a significant delay or a month or more. If this is because IDOC has been trying to stop drugs. Inmates didn't hear about this until recently. Mail is either returned to sender for reasons never previously get those missing especially if it runs more than a few pages. Not all inmate mail is casual mail. IDOC mail obstacles are particularly problematic for those inmates who lack legal representation, and most inmates do not have attorneys to challenge their convictions past the appellate level, they have to do so on their own and need to be able to freely communicate with the outside. It's not just love letters or greetings.

Comment:

Annika Kolasa, (Oral, Virtual)
My name's Annika Ray Kolasa Esquire, so I'm opposed to this. First off, IDOC has not followed the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act. This is clearly a rule macerating as an amendment. Section 170 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act 5 ILCS 100 defines rule as each agency statement of general applicability that implements, applies, interprets or prescribes law or policy. There are some exceptions, but they also refer to this as a rule in their emergency amendment. They call it a rule, they call it a rule making. Rather than simply amending new sections, the additional proposed text spans over seven pages with about four pages worth of entirely new material. The addition of facility publication review officers, facility publication review committee, entirely new processes for incoming mail standards for publication, procedures for the facility publication review officer and review committee to make their mail determinations. And the policy revokes incarcerated individual's ability to receive physical mail. I mean it has a major impact on nearly all 30,000 individuals in custody in Illinois. It's gonna change the only way they have to interact with the outside world. It's gonna severely limit the information they have available to them. We haven't heard if there's a per page fee, but it could severely limit how much they're even able to read. Which is definitely gonna impact their literacy and I mean what else are they supposed to do with their time? So, it's very disingenuous to refer to as an amendment when it's actually a rule. B IDOC is not considered less intrusive methods as the IAPA does require. ILCS 105 30C4, before prior to prior to publication in the Illinois register, the agency must have a description of any less intrusive alternative methods of achieving the purpose. And there are several less intrusive methods available for seeing substances or finding weapons. We're looking for electronic devices in paper. I'm not really sure how they think scanning is gonna fix the problem of hidden code. I just I'm just not, it's not clear to me. But so, there is several several drug detection technologies they could be using. I just did a quick search Vaper ID, race secure, MS technologies, duo scan, equipped screening technologies, scan tech sentinel CT, and instead of considering these alternatives before proposing the rule, as the IAPA required, IDOC does not appear to consider them at all. The rule does not discuss these technologies, does not have any accompanying studies or reports, doesn't incorporate any incorporate any by reference. As you can see on page 12568 of the federal register, and it doesn't even mention if they did any requests for proposals or they made any procurement efforts regarding the cost of these technologies, so they compare. Rather the way it lists see any other secure reasonable and effective method comes after scanning or providing photocopies. Indicating that this is for someone else to determine later despite it being the agency's affirmative obligation prior to proposing a rule or amendment under the IAPDA. And the Department of

Corrections doesn't even provide any criteria for what a reasonable or effective method for would be preventing contraband. Indicating it has not even taken the 1st step in the analysis of alternatives required before proposing a new rule. And of course, of course they do for lawyers, they mention multi factor authentication systems, screening technologies. So, it seems like they're going to have to invest in this screening technology anyway, and I certainly would hate as a lawyer to just be set by, you know, my client's families to come at me. Oh, can you bring this book? Can you bring this drawing? Can you bring this photo every time I'm trying to go see them, that would really burden me if I'm the only person that can get in a physical piece of paper. C, this proposed rule does not contain or refer to any economic impact statement or demonstrate regulatory flexibility as it is required. 5 LCS 100 530 provides the agency shall, in other words must, provide an opportunity for small businesses, nonprofits or small municipalities to participate in the rule making process. Prior to the filing for publication in the Illinois register of any proposed rule or amendment that may have an impact on such businesses or nonprofits. And we've seen by the letter given to the JCAR board, there were so many nonprofits that this would affect, and there's no impact now, there's no economic impact analysis attached to the proposed rule/amendment. As is required by the IAPA if IDOC. Um, my second major point is that this proposed rule goes against the purposes of both the Illinois unified Code of corrections and the 1st amendment. 730 ILCS 5 section 112 provides the purpose of the code of corrections. It's not to punish and dehumanize, it's to prescribe sanctions proportionate to the seriousness of the offenses to prevent arbitrary or oppressive treatment and to restore offenders to useful citizenship. I don't really see how locking someone up in a room with nothing to do is restoring them to useful citizenship? I mean the purpose of this hearing isn't to determine whether in people in prison have deserved you more than sit quietly in itself because the legislature has already decided.

Comment:

Erica Bentley, Mamas Activating Movements for Abolition and Solidarity (Oral, Virtual)
Good morning. Yeah, my name is Erica Bentley. I'm a Co-Director of Mamas Activating Movements for Abolition and Solidarity, a coordinating member of the No New Prisons Illinois Campaign, and I'm also a therapist who works with people who are navigating trauma and addiction. I'm in relationship with a number of people who are incarcerated both in Illinois and in other places, and I am here today to publicly state my staunch opposition to the IDOC's proposal to prevent people from being able to receive physical mail and to urge those with decision making power not to implement this on a permanent basis. IDOC claims that this is about safety of the staff and of the people for whom they are supposed to be responsible. However, there's NO evidence showing that switching to scanned mail will reduce the flow or use of substances in prison. In fact, there was there's actually evidence to the contrary in other states which have implemented mail scanning, drug use and substance related deaths have stayed the same and even increased. There is also no evidence showing that people have actually become sick from handling tainted mail. When we have asked the IDOC to provide the data around the whole scare that happened a year ago, last year they refused to do so, and third-party inspection did not come back with any toxicology results. Additionally, there are numerous experts who have testified that it's essentially impossible for a person to absorb enough of a substance like fentanyl through handling tainted mail or paper to cause an overdose. Regarding

safety and wellness of people who are the IDOC in prisons, I honestly do not believe that IDOC truly cares about their safety or wellbeing. If they did, people would not be living in squaller with mold poisoned water and other crumbling infrastructure. People would not be kept on lockdown and in their cells for days upon days, there in person and video visits canceled, their programming, if they are lucky enough to be one of the few who are chosen to have a live programming is canceled. Narcan I'm sorry Narcan, or naloxone, which does not work on non-opioids but does have lifesaving effects against things like fentanyl would be readily accessible to people on their decks without having to wait for guard to call a guard and for code call procedures. Naloxone works by blocking opioid receptors and has absolutely zero potential for being used to get to being misused to get high. If IDOC actually cared about people not using drugs from a safety and care standpoint, there would be recovery assistance and programs available for those who want it. I spent the better part of 2022 to 20 I'm sorry, 2023 to 24 trying to help my friend to advocate for himself to be placed into substance use treatment while he was in IDOC, which he was actually ordered to be in by a judge. He was repeatedly denied and after nearly a year and ultimately the help of a connection in Springfield, he was told he was going to be transferred into a treatment program. Then at the last minute he was denied access to the program because at that point he had less than 18 months left before his MSR date, and I was told by IDOC that it would mess up program numbers. He started and then didn't complete the program. This makes absolutely NO sense from the standpoint of creating safety. The prison he was in didn't even have AAA and his counselor was also his CO, meaning that there would never be any sort of actual therapeutic relationship possible because of the power dynamics there. And this is really common across the IDOC, it was even referred to earlier by an IDOC employee. Studies overwhelmingly show that an addiction in isolation is intricately linked, forming a feedback loop that can make recovery challenging. The emotional pain associated with being isolated often drives people to seek relief through substance use using it as a coping mechanism while then the substances can deepen these feelings leading to a cycle that is difficult to escape. Difficulty that is amplified for those who are locked up hours away from their loved ones. People have shared time and time again that physical mail provides a lifeline between those who are incarcerated and loved ones on the outside. Here I want to share with a friend of mine who's been in IDOC since 2001 has shared with me. The effects of stopping mail, people would NO longer have an object that was the sense of that person, just the thought of like, hey, my mom, my sister, my brother, my grandmother wants held this letter. Letters make people feel close to our family. People will lose family members, and they've sent them a letter or card, not being able to go into your box or where you store your mail to read and smell and touch that item that was sent by that person who's now deceased would affect people in such a negative way. Just think for a second, how would you feel NO longer being able to touch something that was once held by your family member? Being able to only view that document for six months on a tablet that may or may not work and may not have any connection, if the goal of IDOC is to promote healthy relationships and good mental health doing away with mail would do the opposite. So, I would like y'all to consider, you know, do you have anything that belonged to a one loved one? Is there emotional significance to that? Is there a connection that you feel with that? A digital scan is not the same. It never will be. You know, and do you look at photos that are older than six months? Do you have that like to be able to reminisce on? Again, like deleting things after six months? That is unacceptable. So, if IDOC is truly concerned with the safety and wellness of both people that it holds captive and the people at employees, it will not eliminate y'all will not eliminate one of the very few connections that folks who are locked up are able to maintain. Again, I urge those with

decision making power not to implement this rule. Thank you.

Comment:

Ben Ruddell, ACLU Illinois (Written)
Good morning. My name is Ben Ruddell. I'm the Director of Criminal Justice Policy for the ACLU of Illinois. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today about some of our concerns regarding the Department's proposed rule.

There is simply no evidence that this proposed rule will make Illinois prisons any safer. IDOC claims that this new rule is necessary to "prevent smuggling of contraband, hazardous substances, and other prohibited substances or materials into correctional facilities." We can all agree that the presence of contraband drugs in prisons can be harmful to employees and incarcerated people alike. But IDOC has not presented any evidence that the mail is a primary or significant source of hazardous substances entering facilities.

The legislature has already taken a reasonable step towards understanding the issue of contraband in Illinois prisons by very recently passing Public Act 104-0412, which requires the Department of Corrections to gather data on how contraband enters facilities and to share that information through public reports. IDOC has not yet produced any of these reports, yet has rushed to create and implement this rule. The Department should not move forward with implementing this policy before the study and report are completed, and should not move forward at all unless the data actually supports it.

The rule raises significant concerns about the privacy, property, and First Amendment rights of the people incarcerated in the Illinois Department of Corrections.
Courts have recognized that people in prison have property interests in their personal property. See e.g. Orozco v. Dart, 64 F.4th 806, 815 (7th Cir. 2023). The proposed rule potentially violates the property rights of incarcerated people and undermines rehabilitation and recovery goals by cutting people off from precious tangible items—letters, photographs, birthday cards—sent by family, friends, and loved ones, and potentially opens the State up to liability for depriving individuals of their physical property.

The proposed rule also raises significant First Amendment concerns. Courts have recognized that the timing of speech is sometimes as important as its content, an observation that has particular force when it comes to mail concerning legal and medical matters. The lack of limits on the access, use, and sharing of scanned mail will likely have a chilling effect on the speech of some November 4, 2025 friends and family who may be less forthright and personal in their letters to their incarcerated loved ones or may decide it is not worth sending anything at all.
The ACLU has serious privacy concerns with the Department's plan to not only scan all incoming mail, but to save copies of the scanned correspondence, potentially collecting large sums of personal and sensitive information. As written, the proposal will result in the mass collection, retention, and potential commodification of highly sensitive personal information without adequate legal limits, oversight, or accountability.

Prohibiting the scanning and recording of privileged communications is vitally important. However, the procedures for identifying privileged mail are vague, speculative, and unclear. The Department is permitted to adopt procedures including multi-factor authentication, screening technologies that detect contraband but not content of communications, or any additional methods without specification. While the prohibition on privileged mail scanning is necessary, we are left to take the Department's word for how this will actually work.

Following the JCAR hearing, we learned that this is a "no-cost" contract and we are left wondering how the vendor will recoup on their costs. Mail scanning of non-privileged communications will be done by a private vendor, but the proposed rule sets no limits on the private vendor's ability to access, extract, and share or sell information it collects. Some vendors maintain or may later develop searchable databases of scanned mail; such databases can be queried by third parties, retained indefinitely, or provided to law enforcement without judicial process. Under the rule, private vendors are also not subject to security practices that minimize the risk of data breaches that are simply not present with physical mail.

Paper correspondence often contains intimate health information, immigration and financial records, documentary evidence, and sincere personal exchanges that reveal political beliefs, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, and family matters. Once digitized, all this data becomes searchable, copyable, replicable, and transferable—exponentially increasing the risk of exposure, misuse, and improper secondary uses.

The permanent rule as drafted compounds these problems by failing to specify any protections around—and thereby permitting—broad access, uncontrolled copying, and indefinite retention of electronic copies, and by leaving the fate of the original physical documents insufficiently protected.

For all of those reasons, we urge the Department to withdraw the rule and either substantially rewrite it or promulgate a permanent rule only after minimum protections are incorporated, including:

- Absolute ban on secondary uses (e.g., analytics, retention for training, commercial exploitation);
November 4, 2025
- Vendors must be contractually prohibited from sharing scans with any third party (including law enforcement) absent a court order;
- Vendors must be contractually prohibited from creating or maintaining searchable indices or databases of scanned mail;
- Vendors must be contractually prohibited from subcontracting without Department approval;
- Vendors must be subject to civil penalties for misuse;
- Data minimization: Require and implement clear, short retention periods for any temporary electronic copy with mandatory secure deletion and written certificates of destruction; provide individuals a pathway to request the destruction of their mail (and any corresponding electronic file);
- Implementation of reasonable security controls (e.g., encryption, data breach notification procedures, logging, audits) and

- Transparency including public reporting on numbers and categories of scanned items, independent oversight (Inspector General or similar authority), and clear appeal and correction rights for affected individuals.

These baseline measures are essential to respecting fundamental constitutional guarantees. Without such measures, the program will create a mass repository of intensely personal information vulnerable to misuse, mass surveillance, and breach - with predictable and irreversible harm to people in custody, their families, and counsel.

The Department must give more consideration to best practices around publications review policies.

Best practices require that notice must be given to both the individual in custody and the publisher when a publication is being reviewed or has been rejected at the first level of review. Likewise, both the individual in custody and the publisher must be given an opportunity to appeal or otherwise present a written challenge to the rejection of a publication.

The revisions to the current rule proposed by the Department do away with the requirement to notify the publisher as well as the individual in custody when a publication is being reviewed or assessed. It also does away with the opportunity for the publisher and/or the individual in custody to challenge that determination. These changes subject the Department to a risk of litigation, as several states (including Illinois) have faced legal challenges based on inadequate due process guarantees.

The Department should look to examples from other states:
November 4, 2025
•
Washington state's Publications Guidelines (Attachment 3 to policy 450.100), explains this type of process on page 3, the section on "Appeals". See Publication Guidelines (Attachment 3)
•
Arizona's publication's policy provides for notice and process for both the publisher and the incarcerated individual in Subsection 9.3 (see also subsection 7.17).

Comment:

Annika Rae Kolasa (Written)
This comment is in opposition to Amendments to 20 Ill. Adm. Code section 525 (525.110, 525.140, 525.145, 525.202, 525.210) regarding scanning prisoner mail. The rulemaking process is not being adequately followed: less intrusive methods must be considered, as the statute provides, and there is no economic impact statement. Additionally, this rulemaking violates the First Amendment.
I. IDOC HAS NOT FOLLOWED THE ILLINOIS ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT
A. This is a rule masquerading as an amendment Section 1-70 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act (IAPA)(5 ILCS 100) defines 'rule' as 'each agency statement of general applicability that implements, applies, interprets, or prescribes law or policy' (with some

exceptions). This proposed rule, which IDOC appears to be referring to as an amendment, is actually referred to as a rule in the Illinois Register Notice of Emergency Amendment, page 10,954: “This rule is proposed as emergency…..the IDOC must immediately amend its rules…. “this rulemaking.” Rather than simply amending sections, the additional proposed text spans over 7 pages with about 4 pages worth of entirely new material (the addition of Facility Publication Review Officers and Facility Publication Review Committee1, Entirely new processes for incoming mail,2 Standards for Publication,3 Procedures for the Facility Publication Review Officer and Review Committee regarding mail determinations4). The policy it revokes – incarcerated individuals’ ability to receive physical mail, including photos, drawings, personal correspondence, books, magazines, and other printed materials – will have a major impact on all nearly 30,000 individuals in custody in Illinois prisons. It will change the only way they have to interact with the outside world while behind those walls. It will limit the information they have available to them greatly. If the tablets have a per page fee, it may severely limit how much they can read. What else are they supposed to do?
It is disingenuous to refer to this policy change as an amendment when it should have been classified as a new rule. Just because it is called an amendment does not change the face of the proposed rule, and as such it must be evaluated against standards for proposed rules, rather than proposed amendments.

B. IDOC has not considered less intrusive methods as required by the IAPA
Pursuant to the IAPA, the agency must, prior to publication in the Illinois Register, identify the impact of a proposed rule by identifying ‘as many of the following categories that the agency reasonably believes the proposed rule will impact’, which includes, at 5 ILCS 100/5-30 (c)(4) “A description of any less intrusive...alternative methods of achieving the purpose of the proposed rule or amendment.”
Several less intrusive methods area available, but the Illinois Department of Corrections is attempting to implement this restriction on constitutional rights instead of utilizing one of many known technologies to address the issue of contraband. In the “emergency amendment”, IDOC specifically mentions5:

- ‘letters and magazines sprayed or soaked in intoxicating and hazardous substances’

1 Department of Corrections: Notice of Emergency Amendments, Ill. Reg. Vol. 49 Iss. 35, 12586
2 Department of Corrections: Notice of Emergency Amendments, Ill. Reg. Vol. 49 Iss. 35, 12580-12582
3 Department of Corrections: Notice of Emergency Amendments, Ill. Reg. Vol. 49 Iss. 35, 12588
4 Department of Corrections: Notice of Emergency Amendments, Ill. Reg. Vol. 49 Iss. 35, 12592-12593
5 Department of Corrections: Notice of Emergency Amendments, Ill. Reg. Vol. 49 Iss. 35, 10,945

- ‘Books with weapons hidden inside’
-

‘Books with electronic devices such as, cell phones, chargers, and wireless headsets hidden inside’

•

‘Mail with hidden communications’ – How is this relevant? Scanning a letter would still transmit a code from that letter. code is still the most obvious and easiest communication. We all know the trope from Breakfast at Tiffany’s6: I just tell him the weather.

None of these are adequate reasons to deprive incarcerated individuals of their constitutional rights, since there are easy alternative options.

As IDOC admits itself in the emergency rulemaking, ‘Preventing contraband is a well-known challenge that has existed since the inception of the correctional system…” Since this is the case, several businesses have been formed to address this need. Just a quick search of drug detection technologies yields several results:

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VaporID, a portable contactless system developed at the Department of Energy’s Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, used at a border facility lab to detect common narcotics including fentanyl, methamphetamine, MDMA, cocaine, and ketamine7

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Raysecure, which specifically brags about chemical mail detection services8 for K2/K3 spice, THC, Raid, Methamphetamines, fentanyl, chemicals, and other narcotics, including suboxone strips concealed in print material and powder or liquid forms of methamphetamines, opioids, heroin, cocaine, and synthetic marijuana.

•

MS Technologies Duoscan Narcotics and explosives Trace Detector – also portable, which can ‘pinpoint envelopes and packages as well as inmates and visitors who have come into contact with narcotics’9

•

Eclipse Screening technologies – this company is vague on their specific technology but I had to include them because they have an adorable pun: ‘stamp out drugs in inbound mail’

•

ScanTech Sentinel CT scanner which utilizes artificial intelligence and ‘custom-built algorithms’ to detect small amounts of contraband in inmate mail.10

Those are just 5 examples. I am sure you could find more.

Instead of considering these alternatives before proposing the rule, as the IAPA requires, IDOC does not appear to have considered them at all. The rule does not discuss these technologies, and does not have any accompanying studies or reports, or incorporate any by reference.11 It does not mention any requests for proposals or procurement efforts regarding costs of these technologies. Rather, the NOPA lists “(C)any other secure, reasonable, and effective method designed to prevent the introduction of contraband through incoming non-privileged mail” after (A) “Scanning and providing electronic copies,” presumably via a tablet, and (B) “Producing photocopies.”12 This statement does not mention any specific technologies or criteria for what would be reasonable or effective, indicating this is for someone else to determine later, despite it being the agency’s affirmative obligation prior to proposing

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Paramount, 1961.

7

Tom Rickey, Chemists Develop Contactless System to Detect Fentanyl, Other Drugs, PACIFIC NORTHWEST NATIONAL LABORATORY (JUNE 24, 2025), https://www.pnnl.gov/news-media/chemists-develop-contactless-system-detect-fentanyl-other-drugs.
8
Detection of Drugs and contraband, RAYSECUR https://corrections.raysecur.com/detection/.
9
Narcotics and Contraband Detection, MS TECH ADVANCED SENSOR TECHNOLOGIES (JUNE 10, 2025) https://www.ms-technologies.com/mexico-city-international-airport-copy/.
10
VADOC First Corrections System to Pilot State-of-the-Art Drug and Contraband Detection Scanner from ScanTech, VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONs (Feb. 13, 2025), https://vadoc.virginia.gov/news-press-releases/2025/vadoc-first-corrections-system-to-pilot-state-of-the-art-drug-and-contraband-detection-scanner-from-scantech/.
11
Dept. of Corrections Notice of Proposed Amendment, 49 Ill. Reg. 12568 (Oct 10, 2025)
12
Section 525.145(a)(1), Department of Corrections: Notice of Emergency Amendments, Ill. Reg. Vol. 49 Iss. 35, 12580

a rule or amendment, under the IAPA. The Department of Corrections does not provide any criteria for what would be a reasonable or effective method for preventing contraband, indicating it has not even taken the first step in the analysis of alternatives required before proposing a new rule.

Interestingly, in the section for privileged mail, IDOC does mention, vaguely, multi-factor authentication systems, and "screening technologies that detect contraband without reproducing, reading or retaining... the correspondence." It appears that IDOC would have to purchase these screening technologies anyways for privileged mail, so why are they not an option for non-privileged mail? No reason is given, despite the IAPA requirement. In clear violation of the IAPA, this inconsistency shows that the Department is aware of a viable alternative but has provided no explanation as to why screening cannot be used for non-privileged mail.13

C. This proposed rule does not contain or refer to any economic impact statement or demonstrate regulatory flexibility as required

The text of 5 ILCS 100/5-30 provides that the agency shall (ie, must), among other things, provide an opportunity for small businesses, nonprofits, or small municipalities to participate in the rulemaking process "prior to the filing for publication in the Illinois Register of any proposed rule or amendment that may have an impact on such businesses or nonprofits, by, among other things, preparing an economic impact analysis which shall be filed with the proposed rule and publicized in the Illinois Register together with the proposed rule. There is no economic impact analysis attached to the proposed rule/amendment. Such a change is so drastic it would greatly effect several nonprofits, whose mission is to help, teach, or increase literacy among incarcerated people. It should not be implemented through emergency amendment.

If IDOC still insists on imposing this rule, the IAPA provides for regulatory flexibility. When an agency proposes a new rule or amends an existing rule (as it is doing here) which may have an impact on small businesses and not for profit corporations, the agency "shall" (as in, must) consider each of the following methods for reducing the impact of the rulemaking:

1) establish less stringent compliance

2) Establish less stringent schedules
3) consolidate or simplify the rule's compliance
4) establish performance standards
5) exempt small businesses, not for profit corporations, or small municipalities from any or all requirements of the rule.14

It does not appear that the required regulatory flexibility has been considered in this case.

II. THIS PROPOSED RULE GOES AGAINST THE PURPOSES OF THE ILLINOIS UNIFIED CODE OF CORRECTIONS AND THE FIRST AMENDMENT

730 ILCS 5 sec. 1-1-2 provides the purpose of the code of corrections. It is not to punish and dehumanize. Actually, in addition to forbidding and preventing specified offenses, it is:

- to prescribe sanctions "proportionate to the seriousness of the offenses,"
- "prevent arbitrary or oppressive treatment…" and
- "restore offenders to useful citizenship.

13

As a side note, this may excessively burden attorneys if they are the only point of contact for personal correspondence like letters, photos, and drawings from children to reach incarcerated individuals in native format.

14

Regulatory Flexibility, 5 ILCS 100/5-30

So, the purpose of this hearing is not to determine whether people in prison deserve to do more than sit quietly in a cell – the legislature has already decided that. The purpose is to deprive these individuals of access to physical written material, which goes directly against the purposes the State has recognized in developing a code of corrections.

Just because someone is incarcerated does not mean they lose their first amendment right to the pursuit of happiness. If books can only be sent from the publisher, it really limits what is available for people to send. Trying to send a meaningful book, only to have it sent back, is discouraging. Having to purchase books new from the publisher can be prohibitively expensive, especially if it is something like a comic with pages in full color. If someone likes reading comics, they should be able to read comics, and should not have to rely on finding a rich benefactor to be able to improve their literacy, or to have a calming uplifting way to pass time. They should also be able to access all books, not be limited to those which are currently in publication. Several important historical books are no longer being published, and restricting someone to only be able to read currently published material is an unacceptable infringement on their first amendment rights.

Additionally, the IDOC has also not given a timeline on how long incarcerated individuals will have to wait to access their mail with these processes. Likely a delay will occur from having to scan each piece of mail, yet there is no discussion of this at all. What is a permissible length of time for someone to await correspondence?

III. CONCLUSION

Why does who want to discourage those in custody from reading? I like pushing buttons, turning pages, annotating (or as they call it in school, active reading). And, as everyone knows, there is

violence in movies and sex on TV – books are often a more wholesome option. I, for one, do not want to live in a state full of illiterate people. Thirty thousand individuals should not have one of their few options for enrichment in custody be severely limited just because IDOC does not want to research or assess alternatives for preventing contraband. The inability of anyone from IDOC to read and adhere to the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act before proposing this rule may give some the impression that there is already an unacceptably low level of literacy in the State. In conclusion, an Illinois rule needs to go through the appropriate rulemaking process, and IDOC cannot simply restrict peoples' rights instead of adapting to meet the challenge of scanning or inspecting mail for cell phones or drugs.
Sincerely,

Annika Rae Kolasa, Esq.

Comment:

Jason Hammond, ScrappyCat vs. CrashedSystem (Written)
Hello There. I am writing to request the opportunity to make a public statement during the Public Comment section today on the 11/4/25 hearing on the proposed changes to mail policy regarding "Mail Scanning". I will be advocating that IDOC and the state of Illinois NOT change to a "mailscanning" policy for a number of reasons, sourced from my own experiences being incarcerated in Illinois, seeing in person the effects of unnecessary restriction of mail and literature, as well as publicly available data regarding the effects of mail scanning and censorship in other nearby states. I will be speaking as an individual.

Comment:

Susan Lucci (Written)
Dear Fellow Illinoisans,
When considering IDOC's ridiculous and clearly punitive emergency order regarding stoppage of physical mail, I respectfully request that you consider my perspective along with many other loved ones of folks inside our Illinois prisons. And it would also be beneficial to consult with the people most impacted: those inside, and in the care of IDOC. IDOC has provided no clear reasoning or evidence supporting their randomly declared decision.
ISOLATION KILLS. Science proves this; most of us know this to be true quite personally. Amidst an epidemic of LONELINESS across the country, why is IDOC continuously focused on -- and using our resources to -- thwart connection and cutoff relationships? Thousands every day are negatively impacted by IDOC's constant stream of lockdowns, unreliable technology, and now an unreasonable, unfounded cessation of mail. Absent any reliable evidence that scanning mail reduces access to contraband, this appears to be yet another IDOC purely punitive tricks. {If IDOC truly cared about the drug issue, they would focus resources on treatment and care, not on meaningless punishment.}
No evidence has been released and a quick consult of other states who have tried this punitive, unfounded solution provide no evidence that it works! The harms and costs and violations of rights are many.
Physical mail matters. I have been writing/receiving letters to/from friends and family since I

was 9 years old -- and I still hold every single letter I've ever received in my precious care. When my mom died recently, I could hold her handwritten letters in my hands. Same for my grandmother. The guys inside I write to say they treasure receiving personal letters. Many decorate their spaces with words and pictures from loved ones. Scanned substitutions that disappear after a limited time in no way offer the same tangible connection we all need and deserve. And just think about all the privacy concerns raised by having someone scan personal mail of thousands of individuals and have access to all that data! SCARY!
As a reminder, it is IDOC's moral and constitutional imperative to RESTORE offenders to useful citizenship. How does thwarting their connections to other human beings at every turn accomplish this?
We live in challenging times. Is THIS who Illinois is? Is THIS what we want to spend our resources on? Is THIS how we treat our fellow human beings - especially in times overrun with hate, heartbreak and trauma? I am suspicious that this is yet another punitive action whose only benefit is for some third party to make money on folks inside, and their friends/family outside.
Thank you for considering more wisely the efficacy of IDOC's emergency order banning physical mail. It's just not right. It makes no sense. And it serves no restorative purpose.

Comment:

Nikita Tejwani (Written)
With regards to the proposal to replace physical mail with digital scans in IL prisons:
The replacement is unnecessary and expensive. Digitally documenting prisoner mail is a massive violation of privacy that also lends itself to expansion of censorship.

Comment:

Yusuf Qamar (Written)
Yusuf Qamar from For The Discourse which is a free publication for incarcerated people, their families, and those facing state violence. Utilizing investigative research to fight for people inside and expose atrocities people face inside and as a result of prison industrial complex.

While keeping physical mail access for people in prisons is our main focus. We can't forget about the preliminary drug tests that inflate numbers of yearly drug finds, are used to attack people inside, and used to cause mass hysteria in mail rooms, exaggerating the actual harm that contact with the so called drugs could do to prison staff. While prison staff goes to the hospital when preliminary finds are produced. Police who consistently directly handle drugs at a higher frequency than prison staff, never get fentynal overdoses on the job. If prison staff is effected by people smoking drugs in prisons then why isn't everyone incarcerated consistently failing drug tests from exposure to this smoke? And if people are failing them, why aren't those drug tests completely invalidated by this claim?

Panels by Hope M. Smiley-McDonald, Ph.D. Program Director RTI-International, Center for Policing Research & Investigative Sciences. AND Jeri D. Ropero-Miller, Senior Director RTI International, Center for Forensic Sciences have done panels on why fentanyl exposure is extremely unlikely to cause overdose, and how this misinformation was propagated, and how to reduce unfounded concerns about fentanyl risk.

IDOCs drug finds have been exaggerated by faulty field drug tests that the New York Department of Investigation have found to have a 91% inaccuracy rate. The Serchie Nark 2's own directions state that "if suspect material does not produce positive test results- send sample to crime lab for analysis", begging to find something. But how often does the ISP test have false positives? These preliminary tests are causing harm in IDOC, people get put on "investigative" status, have their cells tossed, belongings thrown away, get strip searched, cavity searched, placed in restrictive housing (solitary confinement), loose access to phone, email, and personal items. Loose jobs, good time, visitations, and can be transferred to other facilities. This harmful act can extend to those around them as well. One person spent 9 months in solitary for 2 false positives. People in solitary are scrutinized and treated differently, and when the often are acting in response to facing torturous conditions they receive more disciplinary tickets. While in solitary this same individual received other disciplinary tickets and ended up in solitary for a total of 15 months.

For a year we've been looking at IDOCs drug finds and exposure data. And though various numbers are out there received through FOIA, and different numbers have been presented by IDOC, the fact still remains mail is not the problem. Drug finds sent to ISP are documented and labeled by where they were found. "IN CELL:, "ON PERSON", "OTHER", and 'MAIL, legal and regular". In which regular mail only make up around 21% of ISP positive tests. And legal mail only makes up around 4.8%.
If somebody is showing the total ISP positives to you when talking about the mail, and not breaking them down, they may be hiding something.
In addition mail makes up around 8.9% of all preliminary drug finds and legal mail only makes up around 1.8% of all preliminary drug finds.

Mail is getting banned because it supposedly makes guards have to go to the hospital, which is highly unlikely. But by comparing dates of drug finds in the mail that are ISP positive, with days with staff exposures with matching locations, we see there is hardly any actual staff exposures on days with Illinois State Police tested positive mail at all.

THE FOLLOWING FIGURES ARE FROM THE DATA RECEIVED THROUGH FOIA IN JANUARY, which we are now seeking updated data. The data shows multiple issues in general and concerning staff exposures and its proximity to contaminated mail:

IDOCs TOTAL 2024 STAFF DRUG EXPOSURES:
1.There are only 2 records of staff exposure during the first 6 months of the year. The

first on 3/28/24 with one staff exposure. And the second on 4/23/24 with one staff exposure. Both testing ISP positive.ONLY 1 BEING MAIL with the next exposure by mail happening 162 days later

2.There were 198 staff exposures that do not have dates matching with any drug finds on record.

3.Only 11 exposures can be linked to mail with matching dates and locations of ISP positive contaminated mail.

Bad handling of contaminated mail can cross contaminate other mail producing more positive results than actually exist. This could also cause unnecessary staff exposure. Things like not changing gloves often, picking contaminated items up with the same items you pick uncontaminated items up with, storage and handling procedures. Menard CC's handling specifically has been flagged to bring about false positives. But how do we know handling of mail hasn't cross contaminated another piece of mail causing it to have a positive ISP test?

After mail scanning starts: Other states have seen increases in overdoses at their facilities after banning mail. This can directly be linked to the mental stress and further isolation taking away physical mail can produce.

The mail scanning procedures are already showing issues, including:

1. People locked inside IDOC have reported being sent mail not addressed to them, so not only is IDOC staff reading peoples mail, but now so are other people locked inside.

2. The mail is on the tablets for 60 days for people receiving it, but IDOC keeps it for years as investigative evidence in its surveillance of people locked inside, and everyone who communicates with them. But people inside do not get to keep the digital copies that long.

3. People in solitary or “restrictive housing” do not have access to tablets because of their disciplinary grade. So with the 60 days limit, they might not ever see their mail, and for people in solitary communication by mail is a lifeline. Because phone and email service is taken away. Leaving letters only for communication and safety. Its also important to note that when put on crisis watch people in solitary loose access to writing, so they have no communication with the outside world whatsoever.

4. For people in solitary The scanned mail is supposed to be printed up for them but it isn’t, further isolating them and violating their right to communicate with the outside world.

5. Color copies of cards and drawings are supposed to be printed up free of

charge, but people are not getting access to that service.

Physical mail can be more than a lifeline, it can be a validation of an individuals existence in a place which seeks to deny it. I was told the other day about a card somebody received from their daughter, imagine getting 2 pages printed up in black and white xerox copy on normal paper, in place of a colorful birthday card. Imagine the senses the textures and the visual sensory experience. Now imagine your card is no longer that, and its only evidence for the prison to hold onto, and you are just getting a copy of their evidence instead of a physical object you can sit up across from you to look at on a hard day, a reminder that somebody loves you and is waiting for you. This could be seen from across the room, and taken with you where ever your life leads.

IDOC claims, Drugs are coming through the mail,as a reason to get rid of mail for people in prisons . But drugs can be coming in through everywhere. IDOC knows this but are not discussing that evidence. So what steps will be taken next? Block all delivery trucks from bringing supplies in? or Create cardboard cut outs of family members for visitation? Why not photocopy the bed sheets and clothing, and might as well do the food, it might be more nutritious anyway.

PLEASE RETURN PHYSICAL ACCESS TO THE MAIL UNTIL FURTHER DATA IS ESTABLISHED.

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Mail is getting banned because it supposedly makes guards have to go to the hospital, which is highly unlikely given they where gloves.
But by comparing dates of drug finds in the mail that are ISP positive, with days with staff exposures with matching locations, we see there is hardly any actual staff exposures on days with Illinois State Police tested positive mail. Its almost like somebodies rolling the dice, hoping that one of the times they claim a staff exposure has happened, that it just so happens on a day that the mail has tested positive.

FROM THE DATA RECEIVED THROUGH FOIA IN JANUARY 2025
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2. The mail is on the tablets for 60 days for people receiving it, but IDOC keeps it for years as investigative evidence in its surveillance of people locked inside, and everyone who communicates with them.

3. People in solitary or “restrictive housing” do not have access to tablets because of their disciplinary grade. So with the 60 days limit, they might not ever see their mail, and for people in solitary this communication is a lifeline.

4. For people in solitary The scanned mail is supposed to be printed up for them but it isn’t, further isolating them and violating their right to communicate with the outside world.

5. Color copies of cards and drawings are supposed to be printed up free of charge, people are not getting access to that service.
Physical mail can be more than a lifeline, it can be a validation of an individuals existence in a place which seeks to deny it. I was told the other day about a card somebody received from their daughter, imagine getting 2 pages printed up in black and white xerox copy on normal paper, in place of a colorful birthday card, image the senses the textures and the visual sensory experience. Now imagine your card is no longer that, and its only evidence for the prison to hold onto, and you are just getting a copy of it instead of a physical object you can sit up across from you to look at on a hard day, a remminder that somebody loves you and is waiting for you. THATS WHAT MAIL SCANNING TAKES AWAY.

Comment:

Beth Berendsen (Written)
Good morning,

As I am unable to attend the public hearing held today, I am writing in opposition to the proposed policy of the Illinois Department of Corrections (Department) to replace physical mail with digital scans. As a longtime volunteer prison monitor with the John Howard Association, as well as a volunteer who responds to prison mail through the Prison Library Support Network, I know personally the positive impact that mail has for those who are incarcerated, and that physical mail creates a connection to family and community support that digital scans cannot replicate.

The movement to further restrict prisoner's connections with their external support networks is

an alarming trend across the country. Many of these solutions also further entrench the privatization and profit-making efforts of companies who benefit from putting technology as an intermediary between authentic family connections and those who are incarcerated -- from video conferences replacing in-person visits to contraband scanning machines receiving millions of dollars in contracts to reduce or replace physical mail.

In addition to the companies generating profits from these technologies, there is another group that benefits from the narrative that drugs and other contraband are coming laced in the mail -- those most frequently the actual cause of contraband entering prison, the employees of the prison. Evidence from other states has shown that attempts to control drugs entering prisons by ending physical mail has not been successful. As a civil rights attorney in New York stated: "The best approach is putting drug dogs in the officer's locker rooms, because that's where it's coming in." I am supportive of unions bargaining for better working conditions, but I am skeptical that the unions would allow drug sniffing dogs to bring accountability to their ranks as eagerly as they want to wrench mail away from the incarcerated.

The fact of the matter is, while there is strong evidence that tangible connections to their community reduces recidivism for prisoners, there is little evidence that significant amounts of dangerous contraband are coming through the mail. In reality, legislation was passed to study this issue so policy could be informed by facts, and it is irresponsible for the Department to bargain away prisoner's access to physical mail absent that information and in contradiction to the General Assembly's intent.

Sincerely,
Beth Berendsen

Comment:

Nejra Beganovic (Written)
Hello,

In regards to rules for mail scanning lawmaking. Mail scanning means scanning or photocopying the original, physical mail sent to people who are incarcerated and reproducing it into digital copies. The digital copies are transferred to the receiver’s tablet or reprinted on paper.

My name is Nejra Beganovic and I have a loved one detained and awaiting sentencing for a federal crime at Winnebago County Jail in Rockford, IL. I am opposed to mail scanning. I wanted to implore you to please structure laws around mail that will support fair due process, low costs, and not limit communication between people who are incarcerated and their families or loved ones.

Consistent mail provides emotional support, reduces isolation and sustains relationships. Writing and receiving letters are one of the most affordable ways people who are incarcerated can communicate with the outside world. Phone calls and video calls are extremely expensive.

Our county jail in Rockford does not allow physical mail, books, or in-person visitation, limiting all forms of communication for those who can't afford it.

The rulemaking must ensure legal and privileged mail is not interrupted or delayed. For example: At the Rockford, ILLINOIS county jail they only allow mail scanning which has to be received and scanned in a completely different state - MARYLAND. This really delays the due process of people who are incarcerated and want to work on their cases. Even legal mail is delayed and mishandled. My partner's attorney sent a transcript to him WEEKS ago and he still has not received it. The attorney attempted twice to send this LEGAL document. What happened to it? Where is it ? In whose hands is it ? Why is it delayed? Who is going to protect the constitutional rights of the incarcerated??

The rules must include that people who are incarcerated can receive and access programs and correspondence with educational institutions to complete their studies. Many want to use their time wisely to learn about the law, to better themselves as people through education, and to increase prospects of getting jobs, therefore reducing recidivism.
Rules also must clearly state that an incarcerated person's family member or friend may also order or solicit books and publications. For the health of their minds, and all the benefits reading offers.... Books are a healthy and necessary tool for education and mental health. The books on tablets are very outdated, the tablets crash, the batteries drain, and it's not a reliable method like physical books.

Additional considerations:
- Mail scanning is not an effective evidence-based method for eliminating contraband.
In some states, drug use and overdoses have increased after the implementation of mail scanning policies.
- Mail scanning strips people who are incarcerated of a valuable physical connection to home and stands in way of rehabilitation. Many have elderly parents who are only used to writing mail and rely on mail to communicate.
- Original physical mail that does not contain contraband should be returned to the received.
People who are incarcerated should have access to their mail for longer than 6 months.
- Mail scanning should not increase the cost of mail.
- Mail scanning authorizes unnecessary surveillance and violates privacy. Rules must include robust data security and privacy protections. The mail scanning system as it stands now is not private, confidential. Correctional officers can take advantage of information to punish prisoners. We also suspect the prosecution takes advantage of the copied mail. Mail scanning surveils and profiles people on both sides of prison walls, diminishing the rights and privacy of people who are incarcerated and their loved ones.

Please help balance the scales of justice. Do not take advantage of the poor and vulnerable.
Thank you,

Nejra Beganovic

Comment:

Karen Golder (Written)
Dear IDOC:
As a member of the Unitarian Universalist Prison Ministry of Illinois, and a penpal as part of UUPMI, I am opposed to the scanning proposal. There is not evidence that this process reduces contraband, and it creates poor quality, delayed communication between people in prison and their connections outside. It is a way for the prison industry to profit off of the largely lower income families of incarcerated people and put their personal information at risk of data sharing/data leaks. At its core, it is simply dehumanizing. Please do not move forward with this terrible idea.

Sincerely,
Karen Goldner
5701 N Sheridan Rd Apt 25P
Chicago, IL 60660

Comment:

Donald Shaw (Written)
Greetings,
To Whom It May Concern:
My name is Donald A. Shaw, and I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Illinois Department of Corrections' plan to permanently implement mail scanning.
I was incarcerated for 22 years and released in April 2024. About 10 years into my incarceration, I was granted a reversal and remand and had to return to the Cook County Jail for a retrial. At that time, my IDOC property officer informed me that the Department would hold all of my belongings — including my personal mail — until the conclusion of my new trial. That was all I needed to hear to understand how fragile these connections were.
After my retrial, when I was sent back to IDOC, I learned that all of my property, including years of mail and cherished photographs, had been lost. The loss devastated me. Those letters were my link to humanity, my therapy, and my emotional anchor. I went through a period of deep depression, and even now, recalling that loss brings back painful memories.
While incarcerated, I rarely reread a piece of mail, yet that did not make those letters any less sentimental. They represented connection, love, and the passing of time. I eventually accumulated another large box of letters, which I took home upon my release. I still have that box. Throwing it away feels like throwing away pieces of my life, because those letters were my escape and my therapy during years of confinement.
This is the real, human impact of physical mail. Mail scanning would strip away that deeply personal connection and reduce it to something sterile and impersonal.
I urge this governing body to take an honest look at the facts:

- There is no peer-reviewed research showing that mail scanning is effective or that it reduces contraband.
- Mail scanning is not an evidence-based solution to the problem it claims to address.
- It increases costs for families and loved ones, while large telecommunications companies profit.

I ask you to reconsider this harmful policy. The simple act of receiving and holding a real letter

has immeasurable rehabilitative and emotional value. Please don't take that away.

Respectfully,
Donald A. Shaw

Comment:

Bridget Cullina (written)
Dear Director Hughes,
Ian writing to you in light of calls to suspend delivery or electronically scan incoming mail for people who are incarcerated in the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC), to convey our complete opposition to any action that would temporarily or permanently halt the processing and delivery of original, physical mail to people who are incarcerated.

Ensuring the safety of the people who live and work in IDOC is vital. Restricting the mail or replacing it with mail scanning will not increase their safety. In other states, replacing physical mail with mail scanning did not reduce overdoses or drug use in prisons; in some cases, the rate of overdoses and drug use increased. There is no evidence that suspending or banning the delivery of physical mail to people who are incarcerated provides any institutional safety benefits.

Letters, cards, drawings, books, and photographs sent in the mail are treasured forms of communication for people who are incarcerated and their loved ones on the outside. Maintaining close relationships with one's support system during incarceration promotes rehabilitation and improves post-release outcomes, making all of us safer. Mail is essential to maintaining a sense of hope and connection, and restricting it has measurable negative impacts on mental health, behavior, and success when people return home. Digital replications are often low quality and incomplete, and physical letters offer a personal connection that cannot be replaced by digital means.

Medical and toxicology experts have routinely debunked claims that a person can have significant drug exposure or overdose by simply handling something like drug-soaked papers or even powder fentanyl. The risks to staff when handling mail are low, especially with personal protective equipment, and the alleged claims that are circulating about drugs entering prisons through the mail have not been verified. There is no publicly available data or evidence related to how illicit substances enter IDOC facilities. If there is a verifiable substance use problem, the evidence-based way to solve it is to address the root of the problem through comprehensive substance use disorder treatment for people who are impacted by it during their incarceration.

I urge you not to suspend the delivery of original mail or replace it with mail scanning. Instead, please explore evidence-based solutions that foster safety, rehabilitation, and connection instead of restricting access to this indispensable lifeline.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Bridget Cullina

Comment:

Tina Kimberly Sparks (written)
Hello, My name is Tina Sacks and I am a lifelong Chicagoan. I am currently a professor at UC Berkeley. I am writing to adamantly oppose the proposal to block incarcerated people from having mail delivery.

I do not accept any rationale that suggests people inside do not have the right to physical mail. People need to be in contact with their loved ones. And making people pay exorbitant telephone rates or enacting other barriers to contact is cruel.

Let people live. Let the mail in!!!!!

Stop this madness.

Best,
Tina Sacks, PhD

Comment:

Cillian Cullina (written)
Dear Director Hughes,
I'm a resident of Chicago, and I have recently been made aware that several IL legislators are calling for an immediate cessation of non-legal paper mail being delivered to people incarcerated in the IDOC. There are also now reports that the IDOC has signed a contract for tablets and is planning to roll out digitized mail in some facilities in 2025. **I am writing today to express my complete opposition to *any* proposal to halt mail delivered to incarcerated people**, be it theoretically temporary or not, including transitioning to digitized mail service, as proposed in the recently filed HB5893. I am cc-ing my own legislators on this email, to let them know that I do not support this or any other proposed action to further limit or restrict delivery of mail to people incarcerated in IDOC.
I understand that this is being framed as a response to IDOC staff allegedly becoming ill after handling incoming mail. However, **medical experts have routinely debunked claims that a person can have significant drug exposure or overdose by simply "handling" something**-like drug soaked papers, or even powder fentanyl- and in response to the recent incident at Shawnee, testing conducted by the Marion Fire Rescue Hazardous Material Team came back negative for any presence of drugs or narcotics.
Director Hughes, we know that **letters, cards and photos are a *lifeline* for people who are incarcerated**- one of the only ways for them to stay connected to their loved ones- and **robbing them of this will undoubtedly have a negative impact on people's mental health** and emotional well-being. For this halt to come just ahead of the winter holiday season is especially cruel punishment for those locked up inside, and their loved ones. **Transitioning to digitized mail is problematic and an unacceptable alternative for a number of reasons**,

including **heightened inequity** for those who are unable to afford or otherwise do not have access to a personal tablet, and creating **greater access barriers** for people on the outside trying to communicate with their loved ones. It also means incarcerated people don't receive actual photos, cards, or handwritten letters from their community members, which further **limits their connection** to vital relationships and **is dehumanizing**.
Again, I am writing this email to clearly state **my complete opposition to any and all proposals to halt mail delivered to incarcerated people, including and especially HB5893,** and urge you *not* to move forward with this proposal.

Comment:

Mairead Collins (written)
Hi,
I would like to share an opinion on behalf of myself and my 5 adult family members. People who are incarcerated rely on physical Mail communications to stay connected to family and reduce the feelings of isolation that can make incarceration do more harm than intended. Please allow those of us on the outside to continue to send mail and please maintain your ability to get that mail to those inside. Mail must be seen as an investment into the lives of those locked up and it will pay off greatly over the course of the rest of their lives and the lives of children and family.

-Mairead Collins

ps. think of recidivism rates and your budget longterm. Mail is necessary.

Comment:

Elizabeth Brandon (written)
Mail is a lifeline to the incarcerated. I volunteer with Midwest Books to Prisons packing books for incarcerated people, and I've cried packing picture books for kids in detention centers who could barely write their name in marker. It is absolutely heartbreaking to think about being stuck in that situation. Sending a book by their favorite author is just one small way to brighten their day and help them develop critical life skills. It makes me very angry to think about incarcerated children and adults not being able to receive mail, which also limits their contact with families, lawyers, pen pals, and the outside world. It's a cruelty on top of an already cruel situation. Let the people read. Free the mail.

--
Elizabeth Brandon

Comment:

Mahmood Husain
Hello,
I am reaching out as a concerned Illinoisan regarding the blocking of mail to the incarcerated. The right to communicate and maintain contact with loved ones, and with anyone for that matter

is a human right. Taking away such connection from anyone that is incarcerated is abhorrent and must be remedied. I implore that all steps be taken to ensure that anyone incarcerated has their human rights respected in not being cut off from the world.

Thanks,
Husain

Comment:

Melissa Koehn (written)

To Whom It May Concern:
I'm hoping you can help facilitate the mail for the inmates at Logan Correctional Center. Apparently mail isn't being received, scanned or otherwise. According to a counselor at Logan, there are over 16 pallets of untouched mail in the mail room. It's unfair that mail isn't being received. Please consider making the necessary changes so that these inmates can at least receive and send written communication.

Sincerely,
Melissa Koehn

Comment:

Aarij Abbas (written)
To whom it may concern,
I am a resident of Illinois living in Little Village, just a ten minute walk from the Cook County jail. I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed rule which would ban incarcerated people from receiving physical mail from the outside world. This motion will not do anything to increase security of prisoners, but will only serve to further isolate them from their loved ones. There is no evidence to suggest that stopping the flow of physical mail will do anything to increase the safety and security of prisons. For most incarcerated people, physical mail is their strongest connect to the rest of society. Taking this away from them is vindictive, dehumanizing and cruel.

Thank you

Aarij Abbas

Comment:

Clara Raubertas (written)
Hello,
I'm a concerned citizen writing in strong opposition to the permanent implementation of an emergency rule allowing IL prisons to withhold original copies of prisoners' incoming mail and send them scanned digital copies instead.

Prison administrators and politicians are lying about drugs in the mail to take away physical mail and push privatized mail digitization via corporations. This rule does not increase safety or comfort for anyone. Drugs and other contraband enter correctional facilities through the facilities' correctional officers, not through physical mail. This rule doesn't keep anyone safe - instead it increases the unnecessary cruelty prisoners suffer and bleeds them financially.

Prisoners deserve access to communication from the outside world and deserve to be able to hold letters from their spouses, drawings from their children, and other lifelines to social support.

best,
Clara Raubertas

Comment:

Pam Homan (written)
I am writing to state my opposition to the idea of NOT allowing mail to those who are being detained in your system.

Inmates have rights as human beings who are awaiting their sentence. Whether they are being detained legally or otherwise, they have human rights. Communication is one of them--ESPECIALLY given the fact that they have not actually been sentenced.

Allow mail to pass.

Pamela Homan
Part-time Illinois resident

Comment:

Cassidy Reves-Sohn (written)
Hello,
I am a constituent in Chicago (60626) and I am writing to vehemently oppose the proposal to stop mail from reaching people incarcerated in Illinois. Receiving mail is an act of love that brings hope and there is no basis for removing this lifeline. I hope you do what is human and right.

Thank you,

Cassidy Reves-Sohn

Comment:

Elizabeth Hand (written)
I oppose the stopping of mail to incarcerated people! It is inhumane to stop this lifeline!
I live in Chicago IL, 60640.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.
Elizabeth Hand

Comment:

Kei Demand (written)
To whom it may concern,
I am writing to respectfully urge you to oppose any policy changes that would restrict or eliminate traditional mail services for incarcerated people in our state. Maintaining the ability to send and receive physical mail is essential for constitutional integrity, public safety, rehabilitation, and basic human dignity.
First, incarcerated people retain important First Amendment protections, including the right to correspond with others. Courts have consistently recognized that mail cannot be arbitrarily restricted and that any limits must be reasonably related to a legitimate penological interest. Policies that effectively end physical mail—such as forcing all letters into digital-only systems—risk undermining these constitutional rights.
Second, mail is a vital lifeline that helps maintain family bonds. Research and advocacy groups consistently show that consistent communication with loved ones reduces stress, improves mental health, and increases the likelihood of successful reentry after release. Physical letters, drawings from children, and personal cards carry emotional meaning that scanned digital copies simply cannot replicate. Removing or limiting these connections would harm incarcerated people and the families who rely on them.
Third, unrestricted legal mail is essential for due process. Incarcerated individuals must be able to communicate privately with attorneys and courts. Physical legal mail provides an established and constitutionally protected channel for obtaining legal help and exercising the right to petition the government. Restricting mail access—even unintentionally—can impede these rights.
Finally, eliminating physical mail disproportionately harms low-income families, many of whom cannot easily access or afford digital communication systems. Mail is often the only reliable way for families to stay connected. Removing it deepens existing inequalities and increases isolation for the people most in need of support.
For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to protect and preserve physical mail services in our correctional facilities. Doing so supports constitutional rights, public safety, and humane, effective rehabilitation.
Thank you for your attention and for your commitment to policies that keep our communities strong and just.
Sincerely,
Kei Demand

Comment:

Zoe Marguerite (written)
Hello,
I am writing to tell you that I oppose scanning people's personal mail. Doing so cuts people off from their community which makes everyone fundamentally less safe. This will only alienate people currently incarcerated and will not improve public safety. Please keep this in mind while

you consider codifying this policy.
Thank you for your concern to this matter.

Zoe Marguerite

Comment:

Katie Herron (written)
Hi,
I am writing to lodge a complaint against IDOC blocking mail from prisoners and attempting to codify this going forward. This is inhumane treatment, prisoners should be able to send and receive mail.

Best,
Katie

Comment:

Barbara Moline (written)
November 10, 2025
TO: Glen Austin
IDOC
FROM: Barbara Moline
156 N Oak Park Ave.,
Apt 1E
Oak Park, IL 60301
brmoline@gmail.com
708 663-0772
RE: IDOC Mail Scanning
Dear Sir:
I am writing in opposition to the mail scanning program now being instituted in correction centers throughout Illinois. I have been a pen-pal for several incarcerated individuals over several years, through the Unitarian Universalist Prison Ministry of Illinois, all of whom along with myself are being affected, and so I have a personal interest in this matter.

There are two main issues that concern me. The first has to do with the alleged core reason for instituting this change, namely, to address the transfer of illegal substances through ordinary mail into the prison system. The second has to do with the practical and psychological impact of this change on those incarcerated.

First: there are already regulations in effect regarding paper mail to ensure that illicit substances do not enter the system. In states that have instituted mail scanning, there has not been a lowering of drug use; in fact, in some instances drug use has worsened. Drugs certainly enter prisons, but it is highly unlikely that mail is the main conduit. In any case, Governor Pritzker Governor recently signed Public Act 104-0412 to provide much-needed data on what contraband

is entering facilities and how it is getting into prisons. It would seem that instituting mail scanning as a solution to a problem that has yet to be defined is getting the cart before the horse.

Second: when a letter is currently sent to an inmate, some time passes before he actually receives it, in part because of the cautionary procedures described above. Mail scanning will now add to that delay. If any pictures were included in the letter, they will now be scanned as well. The incarcerated individual can no longer handle the communication he has received from a loved one or a friend, but will receive it one step removed from its source. One more step in diminishing the humanity of the incarcerated individual by conveying the message that, whatever his crime or amends, he is not to be trusted, and must be separated in yet one more way from even those closest to him. I protest the mindset that presumes that everyone who is incarcerated must suffer deprivations intended to address the actions of the worst among them.

Sincerely,
Barbara Moline

Comment:

David Lai (written)
To the Members of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules:
I write to urge you to vote in favor of terminating IDOC Emergency Amendments - 20 Ill. adm. Code 525 (Mail and Publications), and to restore the delivery of physical mail to all people incarcerated in Illinois.

Mail is a life line for incarcerated people and their love ones. The ability of incarcerated people to be able to touch their physical mail is humane and must remain available.

Sincerely,
David Lai

Comment:

Jess Lynk (written)
To whom it may concern:
I'm reaching out about the proposed practice to permanently scan mail for people in prison in Illinois. I'm vehemently opposed to this.

This practice is extremely concerning because it cuts off one of the only connections people in prison have to the outside world. Studies over and over again show that connection to community significantly predict better mental health outcomes, adjustment to re-entry and decreased recidivism. If people are able to physical feel the mail, they are grounded in the people in their community. It reminds people are still out there, caring about them.

We need to think about how we protect our community in the long term. Cutting off people in

prison from their communities does not encourage long term safety. It isolates and creates mentally unwell people that will be put back into the community.

In a system that is already inhumane, it's extremely concerning to take away one of the only human aspects left. Let people have their mail!

Thank you,
Jess Lynk

Comment:

Jen Durham (written)
I'm writing as a concerned Illinois resident to urge you to take immediate action to protect the right to mail for people incarcerated under the Illinois Department of Corrections.
The Department has been scanning mail and, in many cases, is withholding or failing to deliver physical letters entirely. This means people inside are losing one of the few meaningful ways they can stay connected to loved ones and the broader community.
Cutting people off from their families and community does not make Illinois safer. It does the opposite. Research consistently shows that maintaining community ties reduces recidivism and supports successful reentry after release. When the state limits mail access, it undermines rehabilitation, increases isolation, and erodes the human connection that helps people rebuild their lives. People need community!
As your constituent, I'm asking you to:

- Investigate and hold IDOC accountable for practices that restrict or delay mail delivery.
- Oppose policies that privatize or digitize mail in ways that strip away human contact.
- Support legislation that guarantees timely, physical mail access for all incarcerated people in Illinois.

The people in our prisons are still members of our communities. Protecting their right to communicate is not only humane, it's essential to public safety and justice.
Thank you for your attention and leadership on this urgent matter.
Sincerely,
Jennifer Durham
Chicago, Illinois

Comment:

Dann McKeegan (written)
To Whom It May Concern,
I'm an Illinois resident and am writing to support the right of incarcerated individuals to receive the original hard copies of mail from their families and communities. I oppose the DOC's move to establish a scanned copy-only permanent policy. This is yet another barrier between incarcerated individuals and their families and communities.

These barriers contribute to dehumanization while incarcerated and lead to increased rates of recidivism upon release. Beyond the moral question, however, there are studies and articles indicating that the testing methods used by DOCs yield false positive rates in excess of 70%. The

tests that yielded the data cited by DOCs across the country to limit access to mail are, effectively, false. So this is punitive, dehumanizing, and arbitrary.

I'm not directly impacted by this. I'm not incarcerated. I'm not immediately in contact with any incarcerated individuals. But I'm a member of my community. And I believe that increasing recidivism and cutting people off from their communities fails to make communities safer. It fails to increase public safety. It's not the right thing to do.

Thank you,

Daniel McKeegan
Chicago, IL 60640

Comment:

Kaz
As a resident of Illinois, a former educator, and a current mental health specialist, I am writing in strong opposition to the proposal to scan mail. This policy does not promote safety - it undermines it. Mail is often the only consistent connection people inside have to their loved ones and their communities. Stripping away that connection further isolates individuals, increases the likelihood of recidivism, and erodes the very pathways that support rehabilitation and human dignity.
Community is not a privilege; it is an essential human need and a cornerstone of healing and accountability. To sever that connection through surveillance or restriction is to deny people their humanity. I urge you to oppose this proposal and to stand on the side of compassion, connection, and evidence-based policy. If such a rule is enacted, I call on you to do all in your power to reverse it.

Comment:

Julia Carey (written)
Hello,
I'm writing to oppose the practice of scanning the mail of prisoners and never providing them the original copy. This is an unnecessary expense to the people of Illinois. It does not provide any additional safety benefits nor does it prevent overdoses or drug uses in prisons. We've seen this tried in other states to no benefit to the people who live and work within the IDOC.

I urge you not to permanently suspend the delivery of original mail or replace it with mail scanning. Please explore evidence-based solutions that foster safety, rehabilitation, and connection instead of restricting access to this lifeline.
Julia Carey

Comment:
Gianni Segarra (written)
Hello,
My name is Gianni Segarra, I live in the west suburbs of Chicago. I am writing to express

concern over the Illinois Department of Corrections aims to take away incarcerated individuals' access to mail.

Scanning every piece of mail and not giving physical copies, is an attempt to cut our incarcerated neighbors off from their communities and is inhumane. The incarcerated deserve to receive their mail with dignity. They deserve to hold their letters, photos, their children's drawings in their own hands, knowing the comfort of their loved one having touched the same piece of paper.

To codify the practice of scanning mail into law would not make our communities safer, it would only strip us all of our humanity. And as you should know, the more individuals are cut off from their community, the higher chance of recidivism.

Please do not isolate our neighbors, please preserve the human connection of unscanned mail.

-Gianni Segarra

Comment:

A Concerned Constituent (written)
To Whom It May Concern ,
I am writing as a concerned constituent to ask you to please support SB 2445. This important bill ensures that people in Illinois prisons can continue to receive original physical mail from their families after it has been safely inspected.

Physical mail is a lifeline. It keeps incarcerated people connected to their loved ones and communities. Taking that away and replacing it with cold, scanned copies would only deepen their isolation and hurt their chances of successful rehabilitation.

Research is clear that strong family ties are one of the best ways to prevent people from reoffending. By protecting physical mail, SB 2445 supports rehabilitation and makes our communities safer in the long run. Isolating people in prison by cutting off real mail does the opposite. It makes them feel more disconnected and less prepared to return to society, which ultimately makes us all less safe.

Thank you for your time and your service. I strongly urge you to support SB 2445.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Constituent

Comment:

Charlie Bavis (written)
To whom it may concern,
Mail is one if not the most important lifelines for people incarcerated. By enacting this emergency ruling IDOC threatens one of the most controlled populations in the United States. I

urge IDOC to suspend permanently this emergency ruling. This emergency rule will not make our communities safer, but exacerbate violent conditions upon our communities. Please do not let this ruling go through.

Thank you for your time,
Charlie Bavis

Comment:

Sabrina (written)
Good morning,
I am writing to express my opposition to the Illinois Department of Correction's policy of banning physical mail for prisoners. This is a vile act toward incarcerated people, as it's an attempt to completely cut them off from the outside. Mail is a lifeline for incarcerated folks, allowing them to remain connected to their loved ones and their communities. Blocking physical mail is a violent act against them. This is why I fully oppose IDOC's desire to ban physical mail for prisoners.

Thank you,
Sabrina

Comment:

Veronica Turlington (written)
Hi there,
I was writing to let you know that I oppose the replacing of prisoners's physical mail with scanned copies. I think this is an extremely dehumanizing way to cut off prisoners from their communities that are outside the
prison.

This proposed rule will not increase public safety, and be a detriment to our communities who have friends and family in the system. As a community member, I wanted to let you know that folks in prison deserve to receive their physical pieces of mail from their friends, family, and community members.

Thank you,
veronica

Comment:

Meridith Beird (written)
The desire to take away all physical mail from incarcerated people is a horrible, inhumane, choice. The drug testing being done on physical mail habitually shows false positives, leading to a fear mongering decision to eliminate physical mail. For many people, this mail is a lifeline, a sign of hope, and a form of connection to their family and community. If you take that away, you

are eliminating the last shred of humanity they are allowed. Without human connection, people are more likely to become repeat offenders, instead of rehabilitated community members. I know that probably seems like a good choice for the for-profit penal system in the U.S. but we need to treat people as human beings. Please allow them to continue to have actual cards, letters, and drawings from their family, and DO NOT move to a virtual mail delivery system.

Thank you for your time and attention,
Meridith Beird

Comment:

Molly Page (written)
Let's keep those being incarcerated connected to their community. Scanning mail for drug soaked paper is not solving the problem of contraband behind bars.
This practice just ensures those folks are further disconnected from their communities.
That makes us all fundamentally less safe by increasing recidivism.
I oppose punitive measures like this and I am a registered voter that is paying attention.
Molly Page

Comment:

Aleksandra Grabowski (written)
Hello,
I am a resident of Lake County, Illinois writing to express my strong opposition to scanning incarcerated people's mail. This serves to only further cut people off from their communities and makes all of us as a collective less safe rather than enhance public safety. These kinds of dehumanizing practices boost recidivism and psychological damage rather than ensure people's safe return and integration back into their communities. I am a doctoral student researching human culture and connection in the world, and it is important to me that every person is seen in their fullness of humanity. With this in mind, I ask again that the practice of scanning incarcerated people's mail be ended. Allow them their letters, pictures, drawings by their children, touches of the breath of the world outside of institutionalization.

Kind regards,
Aleksandra Grabowski

Comment:
Lindsey Hammond (Restore Justice Policy Director, written)
Good afternoon,
Thank you for taking the time to meet with Restore Justice on October 24 to discuss the proposed permanent amendment. We appreciated the opportunity to discuss our questions and concerns during our meeting and at the recent public hearing on November 4.
As discussed, we have prepared follow-up documents addressing our concerns and outstanding questions. I've attached the oral testimony shared by Wendell Robinson on November 4, as well

as the written comments from Restore Justice about the proposed amendments. We look forward to your response to both our oral and written testimony.

Please don't hesitate to contact us to further our dialogue about the Department's transition to mail scanning.
Thank you,
Lindsey
(attached document contents continue below)

November 7, 2025
Based on our continuing discussions, here is the list of concerns that we have based on the proposed amendments to Rights and Privileges (20 IAC 525; 49 Ill Reg 12657)
Section 525.110 Definitions
● Currently, as written, definitions are vague and lack clear consistency regarding key terms of art.
● Must define "privileged mail." ○ Does "privileged mail apply to only incoming, outgoing, or both?
○ Does privileged mail apply to those being represented "pro se"?
○ Must define or cross-reference what is incoming privileged mail (i.e., confidential correspondence sent to a person that is protected legally?
○ Must clarify that privileged mail will not be destroyed.
○ Must define or cross-reference what is outgoing privileged mail (i.e., is this a sealed letter sent from a correctional facility to a protected recipient).

● Must define "non-privileged mail" (this fails to cross-reference 05.02.152)
● Must define "legal mail" ○ Does "legal mail" apply to those being represented "pro se"?

● Ensure consistency of usage throughout the proposed permanent rules.

Section 525.120 Processing of Mail
● (a) "delivered and posted promptly" -- what does this mean? Must define.
● (b) Individuals in custody can correspond with anyone in the community, but must get written approval from the COA to correspond with individuals formerly committed to the Department. ○ How does that process work? What if it is their spouse? Or a child or an immediate family member? What if the person is exonerated?
○ Additionally, should there be a panel of decision makers to avoid bias?

● (c) Must define certified mail vs registered mail as it relates to the local post office.
● (d) "Individuals in custody shall not be permitted to open, read, or deliver another individual in custody's mail without the person's permission." Is there a process in place to verify and document when permission is granted? ○ When is a proxy given, and where is this process defined in the rule?

○ When and how can a proxy be terminated or changed? Where is this process defined in the rule?

● (e) “No disciplinary restrictions shall be placed on mail privileges.” ○ Must outline how people in restrictive housing will receive mail.

Section 525.130 Outgoing Mail
● (a) “Individuals in custody with insufficient money in their trust fund accounts to purchase postage shall be permitted to send reasonable amounts of legal mail…” ○ Must clarify and standardize what a “reasonable amount” is.

● (d) Must remove reference to “‘juvenile facilities.”
● (d) Must define “reasonable suspicion.”

Section 525.140 Incoming Mail
● (a) & (b) Must have a timeline for the processing of legal and privileged mail. Much legal mail is time-sensitive, requiring prompt responses for tight court deadlines. ○ Courts have recognized that the timing of speech is just as important as content. DOC must adhere to a standard timeline to deliver mail once received in the facility.

● (b) Why is privileged mail being opened if the sender has registered under the MFA system?

Section 525.145 Security Measures for Incoming Mail
● (a)(2)(C) “Any other secure, reasonable, and effective method designed to prevent the introduction of contraband through incoming nonprivileged mail.” This is an overly broad regulation that would allow DOC to implement any method it considers “secure, reasonable, and effective.”
● (b)(3)(A) How will DOC make the public aware of the MFA and prevent privileged mail from being delayed? ○ Must outline what happens if someone is denied MFA enrollment.
○ Must exempt legal mail sent from the courts from using the MFA process. ■ In Ohio, mail sent from courts to case participants have been scanned because the courts are unable to apply for a control number for every piece of mail due to volume. Mail from courts would fall under the definition of legal mail. If an entity, such as the circuit clerk/court, is sending mail, it is reasonable that the mail be treated as legal mail and not be scanned.

○ Must outline how confidentiality will be protected for legal mail that does not have a MFA control number.
○ Must ensure legal mail from courts is expedited to ensure a timely response.

● (c) “The Director has the authority to exclude incoming mail from the electronic mail and mail copying processes when one or more of the following conditions are met: The item presents no material security risk...” Must define “material security risk” and how this is determined.

● Would legal advocacy groups that send mass mailings (e.g., education/informational documents) be required to obtain a control number for each mailing? This would create unnecessary restrictions and burdensome requirements for groups that have valid interactions with those persons who are incarcerated, preventing critical information regarding pending litigation, reentry programs, legal rights, etc. This is unmanageable and delays access to the court system.

Section 525.146 Retention and Disposal of Incoming Mail Subject to Electronic Mail Processing or Mail Copy Processing

● (a) states "the original documents shall be retained for no less than six months after the date the mail is scanned or photocopied unless the documents are subject to grievance." Why can't the original documents be returned to the intended receiver if it is determined that it does not contain contraband?

● (b) Concern that this proposed process will overwhelm the grievance process. There is also fear of retaliation for submitting grievances.

● Many individuals in custody don't have attorneys, but send sensitive case information to consult with other parties. There are significant privacy concerns regarding the digitization and storage of confidential information for extended periods without adequate security measures.

Section 525.220 Standards for Publications:

● This section still provides for a level of subjectivity that can lead to abuse. The following sections need to be more clearly defined to avoid bias: ○ Subsection 4: "Advocates or encourages violence, hatred, or group disruption, or it poses an intolerable risk of violence or disruption"

○ Subsection 6: "Is otherwise detrimental to safety, security, good order, rehabilitation, or discipline, or detrimental to mental health."

Section 525.202 Definitions

● "Publisher" includes "a religious organization or ministry, and an educational institution…" Must define "a religious organization or ministry, and an educational institution."

Section 525.210 General Guidelines

● (d) "A member of the individual's family or a friend may also order, solicit… publications for delivery to the facility." This sentence is struck and should be reinstated to make clear that loved ones or community members can send publications from a publisher to an individual in custody.

● (e) "Individuals in custody shall not receive damaged or altered publications." Must define "damaged or altered."

What's Missing and Should be Added

● The proposed rules do not address how the large sums of data, including personal and sensitive information, gathered from scanning and copying mail, will be protected by DOC and any third-party vendors. Must state the legal limits, oversight, and accountability to ensure that data is not shared, sold, marketed, or provided to law enforcement without a judicial process. Must include the safeguards in place to ensure there is no data breach, and how data will be protected if DOC switches vendors. ○ Must include an absolute ban on secondary uses of data (e.g., analytics, retention for training, commercial exploitation).

○ Must include that vendors are contractually prohibited from sharing scans with any third party (including law enforcement) absent a court order.

○ Vendors must be contractually prohibited from creating or maintaining searchable indices or databases of scanned mail.

○ Vendors must be contractually prohibited from subcontracting without Department approval.

○ Vendors must be subject to civil penalties for misuse.
○ Must include implementation of reasonable security controls (e.g., encryption, data breach notification procedures, logging, audits) and
○ Transparency must include public reporting on the numbers and categories of scanned items, independent oversight (such as an Inspector General or similar authority), and clear appeal and correction rights for affected individuals.

● Must require and implement clear, short retention periods for any temporary electronic copy with mandatory secure deletion and written certificates of destruction; provide individuals a pathway to request the destruction of their mail (and any corresponding electronic file);
● Must add that photos sent from a third-party vendor, such as Free Prints, Pelipost, or Shutterfly, will be delivered in the original, physical photo form.
● Must add that mailing, such as newsletters, sent from a third-party vendor will be delivered in the original, physical form.
● Must add that there will be no restrictions on the amount of mail or the number of pages that can be delivered and scanned.
● Must include that individuals in custody can receive and access programs and correspondence with an educational institution to ensure they can continue any correspondence studies or independent studies.
● Must add what an individual in custody can do if the scanned or copied mail is illegible, partially scanned, or missing pages.

Outstanding Questions
● Are "clergy" intended to be part of the definition of those qualifiers under the privileged mail definition?
● How long will DOC or any third-party vendors retain the collected data?
● How long will people in custody have access to scanned mail on their tablets?
● Will people in custody be able to request a physical hard copy or photocopy of their mail when the mail is scanned by a third-party vendor?
● What is the appeals/notification process when privileged mail is rejected? Must include the parameters for rejecting privileged mail.
● Will the rules outline the process for confirming that mail contains contraband?
● If mail is confiscated because it is suspected of containing contraband and then tested and determined not to contain contraband, will it be returned to the recipient?
● What accommodations will be provided to people with disabilities who are not able to access or use a tablet to view their mail?
● How much will mail scanning cost, and will people be charged an additional fee/cost to send mail when a third-party vendor is contracted?

Comment:

Kitt Gallagher (written)
I oppose the scanning of mail as standard practice for prisons. People should not be cut off from their communities in this way. They deserve to receive photos, drawings and hand written messages in person. It is safer for our communities when people in prisons are conected with their families and loved ones on the outside. This policy is dehumanizing.

Kitt Gallagher
(they/them

Comment:
Brittany Poppen (written)
Hello,
I am writing as an incredibly concerned Illinois resident that the IDOC is considering permanently not allowing incarcerated people access to their physical mail. My brother was in the military and deployed multiple times overseas to war zones. The physical mail we would send him, the handwritten letters and hastily sketched drawings were a lifeline. The same applies for our incarcerated people. Prison is meant to be a rehabilitation, we need our incarcerated people to serve their time, to serve out their punishment, but we also need them to reintegrate to society upon release. Cutting them off from their families will not accomplish this. The importance of a physical piece of mail, a photograph, a drawing, shows them that there are still people that care for them and that will help them rejoin and become productive members of society once again. Do not pass this rule and take away physical mail. A scanned image is not the same.
Thank you,
Brittany Poppen

Comment:
Rebecca Malinowski (written)
Incarcerated individuals deserve to hold their loved ones' written words. A hand-written letter can be a life-saving thread for people locked away from their families and loved ones. The idea of receiving a facsimile, scanned by a stranger takes away the humanity and connection of delivered mail. Is the justice system in this country designed to rehabilitate or to dehumanize? Or rather, should a just system rehabilitate or dehumanize.

I understand there have been reports of drug exposure through the mail. I also understand there is data from IDOC that contradicts these claims. And I understand that those employed in Illinois prisons undertake risks everyday and are compensated for those risks. It is impossible to minimize all risk to these employees, and doing so by chipping away at the dignity of the incarcerated is immoral. Furthermore, scanned mail would still have to be handled to be scanned, so would there even be significant risk reduction?

Finally, whenever we introduce a new step in a system, we introduce more opportunities for errors and more overhead costs. How much will taxpayers pay, and to whom, for this new process? And what are the risks of lost or misdirected mail with the addition of a scanning process? Lost mail impinges on an individuals right to information, while misdirected scans could be a major privacy or confidentiality violation.

Illinois has been a leader in rights for the incarcerated by not introducing scanned mail, and I encourage IDOC to continue to make sure all incarcerated people receive both the information sent to them as well as the connection that direct mail can produce.

Regards,
Rebecca Malinowski
Oak Park, IL

Comment:
Emily Been (written)
I am a community member of Chicago and I oppose the withholding and scanning of mail to prisoners. Cutting incarcerated people off from their loved ones and community not only does nothing to protect us, it actively harms prisoners and makes them more likely to reoffend when they are released. Cutting off people's lifelines to their loved ones because of a ridiculous claim that drugs are being smuggled in through paper is simply unconscionable. Incarcerated people are our community members too. We do not want them cut off from life outside of the prison industrial complex. DO NOT make mail scanning an official policy of the Illinois correctional department.

Comment:
Bess Reis (written)
To whom it may concern—
I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal to replace prisoners' physical mail with digital scans. This policy is rooted in misleading information about how drugs enter facilities and, more importantly, disregards the basic humanity of those who are incarcerated. Letters and physical mail are lifelines, essential tools for maintaining connection with family, friends and community. Taking away the ability to touch, keep and reread messages from loved ones strips people of a rare source of comfort and dignity. This change would not only dehumanize incarcerated individuals but also harm the families and communities who love and support them.
Extensive research and personal testimony alike show that maintaining meaningful human connection during incarceration reduces recidivism and supports successful reentry, ultimately making our communities safer. Policies that sever those connections do the opposite.
In short, I oppose this policy in any form (temporary or permanent) and urge you to reject its implementation.
With care and solidarity,
Bess Reis

Comment:
Charlie Esker (written)
To Whom It May Concern:
As an Illinois resident, I strongly oppose the Illinois Department of Corrections permanently adopting the emergency rule that restricts the distribution of original physical mail.
Everyone deserves to receive mail from their loved ones while they are incarcerated. Receiving mail is a critical piece of human connection and dignity. Restricting physical mail that has already been inspected robs people from precious, sentimental items such as handwritten notes, artwork, and photos.
Restrictions of physical mail makes a significant impact on incarcerated people - impacting mental health, behavior, and even increasing recidivism upon release. There is no public safety

purpose to mail restrictions. It is a cruel abuse of power.
As a community member, I support Senate Bill 2445 that prohibits denying physical mail to incarcerated people.
Thank you for your attention.
Best,
Charlie

Comment:
Alyssa C (written)
I oppose the Illinois Department of Correction's attempt to block mail to incarcerated people. Mail is a lifeline for incarcerated people and allows them to connect with their loved ones and community outside. It is cruel and not only hurts the people who are incarcerated, it hurts their loved ones as well.

Comment:
Ambrelyn Rodriguez (written)
Hello,

I am a lifelong Chicago resident and I am deeply concerned by the DOC's proposition to ban paper mail.

I have family members who have been incarcerated and in college, I had an incarcerated pen pal. Both of these experiences emphasized for me how important community is in healing and in ultimately re-entering society.

The point of incarceration is supposed to be rehabilitation, not suffering. It is important to respect the humanity of incarcerated people and to honor and encourage connections to the outside world. I lean on my community when I need support, encouragement, and so much more. I would imagine that incarcerated people need their community in those moments more than ever.

Paper mail (which includes photos, drawings, and written letters) is an important conduit for community and connection - especially considering the significant barriers to accessing community in person. For example, family of incarcerated people may not be able or willing to make the commute to visit in person, it may not be an appropriate place for children or immunocompromised people to gather, especially in the ongoing wake of COVID and other illnesses.

I hope that you will consider protecting the dignity and humanity of incarcerated people by allowing paper mail in the future. This way we can stay connected to people we know and love who are working through incarceration, contributing to a better society for me, you, and everyone around us.

Regards,
Ambrelyn Rodriguez

Lifelong Illinois Resident

Comment:
Olivia Challenger (written)
Hi,

I oppose scanning people's mail and disallowing incarcerated individuals from connecting with their community. We are social beings who need support to grow and change our mindsets and therefore our actions.

Do not contribute to a cycle of hostility. Let people have their mail. Treat them like human beings.

Thanks,
Olivia

Comment:
Katie Lenahan (written)
To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the recent attempts in Illinois to restrict or block mail sent to incarcerated individuals in Illinois. Mail is a vital lifeline for people in correctional facilities, connecting them to family, friends, and community support. It plays a critical role in mental health, rehabilitation, and successful reintegration into society.

Blocking or limiting mail undermines these essential connections and disproportionately impacts individuals who already face isolation and limited access to resources. Such restrictions would not improve safety or security in correctional facilities but would instead exacerbate feelings of loneliness, anxiety, and despair; which can have long-term negative consequences for both incarcerated individuals and the communities they return to.

I urge you to oppose any legislation or policies that limit access to personal mail for people in custody and instead support measures that promote humane treatment, rehabilitation, and communication with loved ones. Maintaining access to mail is a basic human right and a critical component of a fair and effective justice system.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Best,
Katie Lenahan

Comment:
Brian & Carolyn Meyer (written)
Hello
I am writing to ensure that incarcerated prisoners of all backgrounds should continue to be allowed to receive mail from their communities, photos of their families,drawings from their

children and attorneys. This is a connection to their Communities and their legal rights should not be violated and they should be allowed as they are undergoing prison time to reveiwv mail to help them get through emotionally and mentally.
Do not stop allowing these incarcerated individuals to receive mail. It is their only lifeline to the outside world and as someone who pays taxes would feel much safer knowing that the have a support system while they serve out their sentences vs when they are released and could lash out and harm others.

Please continue to allow these incarcerated individuals to continue to receive mail from their loved ones and legal representatives. They are not putting drugs into the paper stop with the false positives. Those tests are not accurate and there are many studies showing this.

Carolyn and Brian Meyer

Comment:
Evelyn Magdaleno (written)
To whom it may concern,

I'm Evelyn Magdaleno, a community member and resident of Chicago, Illinois. I am writing in opposition to the Illinois Department of Corrections' attempt to block physical mail from reaching incarcerated people. Incarcerated people should not be further removed from their communities, and have the right to receive mail from loved ones. Digitized scans of mail deprive incarcerated people of their humanity, not being able to have precious letters, artwork, or photos from family members, their children, or people from their wider communities. Digitizing physical mail serves no public safety purpose; it simply further isolates those facing the harms of the prison-industrial complex.

Human connection is so important, and the Department of Corrections should not be taking that away.
Kind regards,
Evelyn

Comment:
Sophie Lemmisch (written)
To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of Chicago, IL and I am opposed to the Dept. of Correction policy of scanning mail. It is a waste of time and tax payer money and removes incarcerated people from their communities even further. Removing incarcerated people from their community increases recisivism and make our community less safe. Stop scanning mail and invest that time and money in community support or job support programs.

Thank you,
Sophie Lemisch

Comment:
Amy Herz (written)
Hello,

I wanted to write to voice my thoughts on the scanning of physical mail and not allowing physical mail to make it to the incarcerated, trying to codify this which **I do not agree with**.

The thought that drugs are coming in on paper is blown out of proportion, with the scanning process leading to many false positives. The narrative being used to try to codify this process is using fear mongering!

I oppose scanning people's mail on the basis of it cutting people off from their communities and loved ones. Not allowing an inmate to get a drawing from their child or a photograph that they can hold onto and feel tied to their world is unjust. We need to treat these people fairly and give them the opportunity to hold onto any love that can help them.

This measure is harmful and does not promote public safety and as a community member I want more focus on rehabilitation and sharing love, not taking it away.

Thank you,
Amy Herz

Comment:
Linda White (written)
Hello,
This message is a written opposition to the proposition to scan all inmates' incoming written mail. This is a clear violation of privacy. As an Illinois resident, I am disgusted by this proposition.
Thank you,
Linda

Comment:
Emily Clement (written)
Hello,
I am a resident of Chicago, writing to express my opposition to the proposed rule that would block mail from reaching incarcerated individuals. This rule would further distance these individuals from their families and communities at a time when they need that connection more than ever. Mail from loved ones is a lifeline for these people. Blocking mail does nothing to help with public safety - it is a cynical ploy to further dehumanize and disrespect incarcerated individuals. I strongly object to making this emergency rule permanent.
Sincerely,
Emily Clement
Chicago, IL
60614

Comment:
Georgia Kerford (written)
Hello,
My name is Georgia Kerford and I am a resident of Cook County Chicago,IL. I am writing to oppose the elimination of physical correspondence to incarcerated individuals. Physical mail is a lifeline for incarcerated people and their families and communities. It provides a comfort and connection to people who are isolated from the outside world. If the mail is no threat to the individuals or the institution there should be no reason for them not to receive it. Many families do not have reliable access to technology or phones and taking away the ability to exchange mail with their loved ones could pose a serious risk and detriment to everyone. Letter exchange should be a write afforded to all US citizens, and the fact that abolishing it for incarcerated individuals is a grave injustice. I hope you will consider my plea and the plea of thousands of others. Families deserve to stay in touch with their loved ones and incarcerated people should be treated as people regardless of their criminal status.
Thank you,
Georgia Kerford
ZIP: 60618

Comment:
Avalon Betts-Gaston (written)
Attached please find a letter requesting IDOC consider making changes to their rules pertaining to electronic communications with a list of organizations and individuals that support these changes.
As you may remember, our organization was inexplicably blocked from Corrlinks by IDOC after sending out a text regarding upcoming Know Your Rights training events. The process to restore access to our members was extremely arduous for both IDOC and ILARJ. As a result, we have prepared some recommended changes to the rules which are also attached to this email for your consideration.
Thank you for your time. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.
Stay safe,
Avalon Betts-Gaston, JD (she/her)
Executive Director

We, the Illinois Alliance for Reentry and Justice ("ILARJ) and the undersigned organizations and individuals, are a group of Illinois-based advocacy, legal support, mutual aid, political action committee, and non-profit organizations and people working to improve public safety through policy and community-centered care and accountability. We are writing to you today in response to the now-resolved unilateral blocking of ILARJ from Corrlinks systems. This revocation is the only issue that IDOC has had with ILARJ in their years of operation regarding their use of electronic communications. Given this and the context below, it is clear to us that there is a systemic root to this situation that could lead to other organizations experiencing the same issues and potentially experiencing irrevocable harm. Our hope is to open a dialogue regarding the Illinois Department of Corrections's policies relating to mail and blocks to communications to and from persons in your care and custody, and ultimately to work with you to improve IDOC's

policies and systems. ILARJ, the organization targeted by IDOC's actions, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in the Chicago area. Embodying their motto "By Community, For Community, In Community," ILARJ focuses on community integration, public education, and services for currently and formerly incarcerated persons, such as community workshops, and connecting individuals with community support during clemency and resentencing hearings. Through programming work supported by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA), ILARJ has become an integral part of public education efforts in the Chicago area regarding our criminal legal system. This includes the operation of the largest directly-impacted-led and paid courtwatching program in the United States, and their Liberatory Health Initiative (which includes the Success Plan program) that assists persons currently within your care and custody to activate their own power to effectively identify and transform the social determinants of health impeding their individual growth and success. As you are likely aware, the larger political context of the Trump Administration's threats to the Chicago area, including threats to illegally deploy members of the National Guard, impacts us in myriad ways. We are grateful that the highest levels of our executive branch are responding with full support for our communities. As Governor Pritzker said at a public event on August 25, 2025: "We will use every lever at our disposal to protect the people of Illinois and their rights." 1 1 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qliVj3YMN-8 from 13:15 – 13:21

ILARJ is an organization that serves people who are the most marginalized in our society. As a part of this service, ILARJ has worked closely with ICJIA, members of our General Assembly, and numerous officials across the executive branch of the Illinois government throughout these past few years. Given ILARJ's positive working relationships, involvement across the state, and work focused on the Chicago area, they recognized an opportunity to rise to the Governor's call. With this energy, ILARJ substantially contributed to the organization of two community-led Know Your Rights trainings for Chicago residents. Prior to the first training, many of us felt encouraged by Governor Pritzker's further call to action during his September 2, 2025 press conference: "We are ready to fight troop deployments in court. And we will do everything possible to ensure that agents operating inside the confines of this state do so in a legal and ethical manner. **To Chicagoans: what you can do is look out for your communities and your neighbors. Know your rights** . Film things that you see happening in your neighborhoods and your streets and share them with the news media. Authoritarians thrive on your silence. Be loud for America." 2 [emphasis added] Just days after this, on September 4, 2025, Avalon Betts-Gaston, ILARJ's Executive Director, began sending information through ILARJ's Corrlinks mailing list regarding Know Your Rights trainings on September 6, 2025 and September 14, 2025 led by several community organizations 3 to many of ILARJ's 1,056 partners who are within the care and custody of IDOC. On September 6, 2025, Mrs. Betts-Gaston sent more emails. The second message only discussed the September 14th Know Your Rights training. These emails did not contain any prohibited characters (such as the IDOC-forbidden tilda [~]) or any content that would jeopardize the safety and security of the people in your care and custody or your staff. The information shared was materially similar to what Governor Pritzker himself shared on this issue during the previous few days, 4 , 5 A substantial part of the community with whom ILARJ frequently works and shares information with represents 3% of the total number of persons in your care and custody. ILARJ is aware that roughly 40-50% of persons in your care and custody on our mailing list are from the Chicago area, many of whom have family that would be impacted by any deployment of the National 5 And this press release, which contains information about Illinoisians' rights: https://gov-pritzker-newsroom.prezly.com/gov-pritzker-

meets-with-immigrant-community-leaders-as-trump-ra mps-up-federal-deployments . 4 Such as this Know Your Rights post: https://x.com/GovPritzker/status/1964413601864942015 3 The training was hosted by Equity and Transformation and Black Voter Project, in partnership with the No Trump, No Troops Coalition. The specific link with the training information shared within their email was https://bit.ly/chicagorightstraining 2 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RacZ2Ove5Hs from 13:45 – 14:18
Guard would have benefited from this training opportunity. Given that roughly 11,799 persons in your care and custody as of June 30, 2025 were sentenced in Cook County, 6 the transmission of information about opportunities like this was certain to be of great interest to the people in your care and custody. On or around September 10, 2025, five days after the information about this training opportunity was shared with ILARJ's community mailing list which was the last email shared during that time period, the organization's access to Corrlinks began to be suddenly and unceremoniously revoked. IDOC provided no notice beforehand to ILARJ or Ms. Betts-Gaston of the communications ban. In fact, no specific reason was ever provided beyond a generic publisher-specific notice issued: "This message informs you that you have been blocked from communicating with the above named person in custody (PIC) because the Illinois [sic] has determined that such communication is detrimental to the security, good order, or discipline of the facility, or might facilitate criminal activity. The PIC with whom you were communicating is being informed of this block. You may appeal this block within 15 days of the date of this message by submitting a written request to the Warden of the prison where the PIC is located. You should include a copy of this notice, an explanation of your appeal request, and any additional documents or information you wish to be considered." This disruption caused confusion among ILARJ's community partners, including persons they work with for programming purposes. Furthermore, the disruption in communications had severely limited their ability to continue their programs with persons in your care and custody and connect with their partners seeking support. ILARJ submitted appeals to the then-appropriate points of contact on September 11, 2025, and September 12, 2025, and this situation was resolved over the subsequent weeks. Transparency and accountability are at the heart of this issue. Had ILARJ been more nascent and unable to reach directly to you and the many other organizations they alerted to this issue, their appeal could very well have been ignored and their operations shuttered. Further still, the process to appeal was both innavigable, requiring in-depth knowledge of IDOC's structures in order to assess who ILARJ needed to contact, and isolating, where ILARJ and their community were disconnected without a clear understanding as to why. Our system should not be so susceptible that one person is capable of separating thousands of people with next-to-no oversight, an inaccessible appeals process, and uncertainty of what exactly is being appealed when there is no information provided about what triggered a block. Further still, this should 6 Illinois Department of Corrections. "Prison Population on 06-30-25 Data Set." Data available at https://idoc.illinois.gov/reportsandstatistics/prison-population-data-sets.html not apply when the consequential decision to separate any person from their family and community is made. We are grateful that ILARJ did have their access to Corrlinks systems unblocked. However, we truly believe that there is room for IDOC's systems to better incorporate principles of justice and accountability into their policies. In order to prevent this from happening again, we hope to seriously engage with this issue, and believe that rulemaking is the appropriate vehicle for ensuring that the State of Illinois continues to serve the interests of justice for all persons. Given the above context, we have identified several areas in which IDOC policy can be improved and made more accessible. 1. Have multiple persons with increasing

authority, including administration staff in Springfield, approve prison-wide and/or IDOC-wide blocks. 2. Provide the names and titles of the individuals who approved the block and cite the specific policy and content of sent mail that triggered a block to allow persons to provide more specific information during an appeal in the notice of the block. 3. Create an electronic/online process to file an appeal that provides step-by-step instructions of the appeals process. If an electronic/online process is not feasible, provide step-by-step instructions of the appeals process in the initial notice along with the email address(es) for the person(s) to whom the appeal must be submitted. 4. Create procedures to allow both recipients and senders to file a joint appeal, separately. 5. Implement a process for individuals and organizations to regain good standing with IDOC after a prison-wide and/or IDOC-wide block that is reflective of the seriousness, extent, and nature of the violation of IDOC policy when and where the decision to uphold a block on communications is made. 6. Implement procedures to automatically unblock contacts in Corrlinks, especially in the event of an erroneous or otherwise overturned decision to block a sender. We have also taken the time to make an initial list of section-by-section suggested rulemaking changes to codify these policy recommendations in the Illinois Administrative Code, which we have sent alongside this letter. Our hope is to begin a broader dialogue with you towards the goal of satisfactorily improving the efficacy and transparency of IDOC's mail system. We hope to meet with you, your staff, and other IDOC officials to discuss this topic further and build a better system for the people in your care and custody. Please inform us of your availability to meet with us during the next few weeks so that we can coordinate and prepare for this meeting. Sincerely,
Illinois Alliance for Reentry and Justice Cannabis Equity IL Coalition Chicago 400 Cynthia Serna Dr. Christie I. Billups Keith Tally Madison Cassell MAMAS (Mamas Activating Movements for Abolition & Solidarity) Parole Illinois Peoples Coalition for Safety and Freedom She Votes Illinois Theatre Y Unitarian Universalist Prison Ministry of Illinois Walls Turns Sideways

Streamlining IDOC Compliance for Publishers, Organizations, and Individual Mail Senders:
Suggested IDOC Rulemaking Changes
● Have multiple persons in increasing seniority approve prison-wide and/or IDOC-wide blocks, rather than one individual prior to implementing a block.
○ Amend IAC 525.130(h) and 525.140(g) to establish a clear hierarchy of approval for any prohibition of incoming or outgoing mail extending beyond the alleged prohibited mail. This would change the language from the generalized "Department employees" and "Correctional officers."
○ Amend IAC 525.230 to require a clear hierarchy of publication rejection extending, rather than providing singular authority to block publications within any individual Publications Review Officers.
○ Amend IAC 525.230(h) to require any Central Publication Review Committee formed to require review for any rejection by whichever is greater between (1) half or (2) 2 members of the Committee prior to recommendation to the Director.
● Cite the specific policy and content of sent mail that triggered a block to allow persons to provide more specific information during an appeal.
○ Amend IAC 525.140(h) to include the specific information evaluated to constitute a violation pursuant to 525.130(h) or Subpart C in any notice sent.

○ Amend IAC 525.230(c) to require the citation of specific language or a description of any images to any publication subjected to a block under IAC 525.230(b)(7) in the notice.
■ This will help ensure that IDOC is not blocking content from publishers that would otherwise fall under protected speech.
○ Amend IAC 525.230 to include a process for any publisher of a banned publication to request their publication to be reviewed without a time restriction, after which review the Director or appointed IDOC staff will relay the specific content and characteristics of the publication that will need to be changed for compliance with Illinois Administrative Code.
■ The absence of a time restriction for the review process is necessary to allow for quick reinstatement for publishers willing to cooperate with IDOC.
■ This also has the added benefit of reducing the volume of appeals that IDOC will handle when a publication is blocked.
● Create an electronic/online process to file an appeal that provides step-by-step instructions of the appeals process. If an electronic/online process is not feasible, provide step-by-step instructions of the appeals process in the initial notice along with the email address(es) for the person(s) to whom the appeal must be submitted.
○ Amend IAC 525.140(h) and IAC 525.230 to include a permanent hyperlink to an electronic appeal form, the email and physical address to submit an appeal, the name of the persons to whom the appeal must be submitted, an explanation of the timeline and stages of the appeal process, and what information may be requested by IDOC during the process.
● Create procedures to allow recipients and senders to file a joint appeal.
○ Amend IAC 525.140(h) to include notification of the ability to jointly appeal and the necessary steps for the communication, including the transmission of information between the recipient and sender.
● When a prison-wide and/or IDOC-wide block is approved, provide the names and titles of the individuals who approved the block, and work with high-volume senders .
○ Amend IAC 525.140(h) and IAC 525.230(h) to include this information.
○ Amend IAC 525.230 to establish a clear process for any publishers to appeal the unacceptability of material sent over any form of electronic communications, in addition to registered or .
● Implement a process for individuals and organizations to regain good standing with IDOC after a prison-wide and/or IDOC-wide block that is reflective of the seriousness, extent, and nature of the violation of IDOC policy when and where the decision to uphold a block on communications is made.
○ Amend IAC 525.230 to establish a clear process for any publishers of a banned publication to initiate a review on an unrestricted basis, with any time restriction imposed only made after a high number of failed attempts at compliance or a clear showing of abuse of the review process.
○ Amend IAC 525.140(g–h) and 525.130(h) to clarify that no universal block is to be imposed between a sender and recipients outside of a written request pursuant to IAC 525.130(i) or by request of the individual in your custody, and that each piece of mail is to be evaluated individually.

○ Amend IAC 525.130(i) to include information of the necessary grievance procedures to be followed under IAC 504 Subpart F .
● _____Require Corrlinks or any future providers to maintain the ability to automatically unblock and restore contacts, especially in the event of an erroneous or otherwise-overturned block.
○ This requirement being codified would ensure that any replacement service to Corrlinks would have to implement this functionality, which Corrlinks does not presently have.

Comment:
Hannah Podhorzer (written)
To whom it may concern,
I am writing to express my strong opposition to the recent attempts in Illinois to restrict or block mail sent to incarcerated individuals in Illinois. Mail is a vital lifeline for people in correctional facilities, connecting them to family, friends, and community support. It plays a critical role in mental health, rehabilitation, and successful reintegration into society.
Blocking or limiting mail undermines these essential connections and disproportionately impacts individuals who already face isolation and limited access to resources. Such restrictions would not improve safety or security in correctional facilities but would instead exacerbate feelings of loneliness, anxiety, and despair; which can have long-term negative consequences for both incarcerated individuals and the communities they return to.
I urge you to oppose any legislation or policies that limit access to personal mail for people in custody and instead support measures that promote humane treatment, rehabilitation, and communication with loved ones. Maintaining access to mail is a basic human right and a critical component of a fair and effective justice system.
Thank you for your attention to this important matter.
Best,
Hannah Podhorzer

Comment:
JQ Hannah (written)
As a tax-paying Illinois citizen, I vehemently oppose the scanning of people's mail while in prison. All this does is cut people off from their communities, which studies show increases recidivism. It makes all of us less safe, it makes my community less safe - and on top of it all it costs money in staff time, etc to scan every piece of mail that enters IL jails so we're paying to be *less safe*.
We all want safer communities, scanning incoming mail to inmates actively works against community safety and needs to be ended in the state of Illinois.
Thank you for listening.
Sincerely,
JQ Hannah

Comment:
David (written)
Hello my name is David and I wanted to communicate that I am against the scanning of

incarcerated people's mail. This is a transparent attempt to remove these people from contact with their community, my community. Not only is this a deeply unjust act but isolating people from support makes me feel deeply unsafe. I urge you not to support this decision.

Comment:
Veronica Pruneda (written)
Dear IDOC,
Mail is a lifeline for incarcerated people, connecting them to their loved ones and community on the outside. Blocking this connecting is not just an act of carceral violence, it is an act of reproductive violence!
I fully oppose the attempt of the IDOC to block all mail from incarcerated people. The passing of this rule would cause cruel and unjust isolation.
Strongly,
A concerned citizen of Aurora IL, Veronica Pruneda

Comment:
Katherine Shah (written)
Dear IDOC,
I urge you to resist draconian restrictions on incoming mail and books, including banning all mail pending a transition to controversial privatized mail digitization services. This is an egregious censorship attempt that undermines education, rehabilitation, and community connection. To the IDOC and the IL general assembly: **do not ban people from accessing physical letters and books through the mail**, do not concede to the easily disproved right-wing drug war.
The Hazardous Material team that responded to the incident at Shawnee Correctional Center prison found no drugs on any paper, nor on the clothes of the officers. There is no evidence of any drugs or contraband being found causing a medical emergency.
Nowhere in the State of Illinois has there been an incident of a corrections worker being made sick or dying of any drug soaked paper. Even holding, or touching the deadly drug Fentanyl will not result in overdosing or being made sick. Touching or holding the drug does not harm you. It is a narrative that AFSCME keeps pushing, but it simply isn't true.
There is no evidence that suspending the delivery of physical mail to people who are incarcerated will improve institutional safety. In fact, other states that implemented mail scanning to stop the alleged problem of drugs coming into prisons through the mail saw drug use and overdoses increase.
Illinois already contracts with Global Tel-Link to provide tablets for ebooks, texting and video visits, which are used not as a means to provide the unlimited wealth of knowledge available to everyone else in the world, but are instead heavily restricted with no internet access. Prisoners are robbed of the constitutional right to receive physical books and mail and are instead nickel-and-dimed on unaffordable tablets with extremely limited selections (for example, Illinois only has copyright-free texts for titles more than eighty years old).
The tablet's "texting" features have no formatting options or pictures, and they are often unavailable because of lockdowns, equipment failures, or for group punishment. If someone transfers to another prison or county jail, all their previous communications are lost forever. This tech is marketed to prison administrators as progressive technology-forward secure alternatives so that they can then eliminate physical visits, physical mail, and physical libraries, against

prisoners' constitutional rights, against American Library Association standards, against the UN Mandela Rules standard minimum conditions of confinement, and against general rehabilitative goals and common human decency.
Books and mail are life-changing for people behind bars—and book bans are destructive to civil rights and collective humanity. A paper ban would further limit artistic expression and further fracture life saving relationships.
As an educator, friend, and loved one to many people in IDOC, I again urge you to allow incarcerated individuals to retain their right to access physical mail and paper.
Best,
Katherine Shah
Researcher
University of Chicago, School of Social Work

Comment:
Audrey Carberry (written)
My name is Audrey Carberry, I am a lifelong resident of Illinois and I would like to speak out against the mail scanning program that is currently being proposed by the Illinois Department of Corrections. Blocking physical mail from being delivered to inmates is a violation of their first amendment rights and takes away one of inmates limited opportunities for any contact with loved ones outside of prison.
Physical mail is a lifeline for many inmates and to cut it off will significantly impact mental health and wellbeing of inmates. Without this crucial tie to the outside, inmates will be further distanced from their loved ones and the important ties that ground them during their time in incarceration. This rule is unacceptable and as a citizen of Illinois who has reached out to incarcerated individuals through the post, I am strongly opposed to cutting off this connection to the outside world.
Please do not implement this rule.
I hope you take my voice into consideration.
Regards,
Audrey Carberry *(They/Them)*
CBYX Fellow | 2025-2026
Loyola University Chicago | BS. Environmental Science

Comment:
Valeria Berrum (written)
I am writing to express that scanning people's mail only cuts people off from their community. I am OPPOSED to incarcerated people only receiving scanned mail.
Social supports and community based programs reduce recidivism.

Comment:
Bayden Fraley (written)
Hello,
I am writing, as an Illinois citizen, to say that I oppose the scanning of paper mail for incarcerated people in IL.

Blocking access to physical mail only further isolates incarcerated people from their loved ones and community members. Studies show that the more isolated incarcerated people feel, the more likely they are too reoffend. Giving prisoners access to physical mail is a small step that we can take to help keep our communities safe and support prisoner's efforts towards rehabilitation.
As someone with a penpal in Texas, where all mail is scanned, I have learned firsthand how this affects people. The scanning of mail has made receiving mail take much longer, to the point where it can take weeks for my penpal to receive a letter. He is also not able to physically hold onto drawings or letters written to him from his child. I know this has been a struggle for him and I do not want to see the same thing happen here in IL.
Thank you for your time,
Bayden Fraley

Comment:
Stefani Jerger (written)
I'm writing to express my opposition to scanning mail as this cuts people off from their community and loved ones. That's not how you rehabilitate a person to be a positive contributing member of society upon release.
You want an effective way to ban contraband? Go investigate your own prison guards. I don't know many guards or Illinois state police but the 5 who I do know are truly evil, imbeciles. You know why they took these jobs? To get paid to harass other humans the same way they did in school and previous jobs from which they were fired or pushed out. The call is coming from inside the house and to whomever is reading this….the clock is ticking for you.
Peace & Blessings

Comment:
Abby (written)
I am emailing to oppose scanning people's mail. Not only does it disconnect people further from community by denying them access to handwritten letters or drawings, but that disconnection from community causes a person to be more likely to re offend, which makes me and my community less safe. It's disgusting and disrespectful and dehumanizing towards these individuals to cause such a divide and take away one of the only tethers to the outside world they may have away. I feel less safe knowing that it will cause more reoffenders and I feel scared for my community

Comment:
Emily Gibson (written)
I am writing to strongly oppose to the proposed rule of replacing prisoner's physical mail with digital copies. It is cruel to disconnect prisoners from the handwritten and hand drawn letters/pictures that their loved ones have sent to them. If you truly believe that prison is supposed to be rehabilitative, you cannot justify putting any further barriers to prisoners feeling connected to their community. As someone who worked for a public defender during the height of Covid-19 and was one of the few people allowed in regularly for visitation, I know firsthand how any connection to the outside world is a lifeline for hope. To use baseless claims about drugs in mail as the reasoning for this permanent change is shameful and deceitful. Rather than pushing privatized digital mail as the answer, consider focusing on using the time and resources

towards improving mail scanning procedures to reduce false positives and finding out the actual sources of drugs in prison. To further separate prisoners from their community over false positives is simply lazy and inhumane.
Thanks,
Emily Gibson

Comment:
Maggie Madro (written)
To whom it may concern,
I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal to scan paper mail for illicit substances. While the intent may be to protect, the practice is deeply flawed and poses serious risks to community connections and individual safety.
Specifically:

- Multiple studies show that mail-screening technologies designed to detect drugs produce **high rates of false positives**. For example, federally-funded research found that trace detection systems in mailrooms had elevated false alarm rates, partly because "clean" mail was contaminated during testing and equipment alarms were improperly calibrated. Office of Justice Programs+2National Institute of Justice+2
- That same research indicates that "items mailed through the postal system do not pick up substantial amounts of drug contamination." National Institute of Justice+1
- In other words, using paper-mail screening as a basis for denying individuals access to communication from family, friends, loved ones, attorneys or other essential contacts is **unjustifiable** given the error-rates. People can be cut off from their support network based on flawed detection, which severely undermines their rights and our communal safety.
- When members of our community are unfairly isolated or silenced, **trust in institutions erodes** and everyone's safety is diminished — including mine. We all depend on open channels of communication and due process.

Given this evidence, I urge you to reconsider the scanning of paper mail in any context that could restrict personal correspondence or legal/attorney access — particularly when the screening technology is prone to false positives and the baseline threat appears low.
Thank you for your attention.
Sincerely,
Maggie Madro

Comment:
Jason Hammond (written)
To Whom it May Concern at the Illinois Department of Corrections,
Re Policy Change to Mail Scanning in Illinois
Hello, my name is Jason Hammond, I am a concerned and angered Illinois resident, I was formerly incarcerated within the IDOC system having been stuck inside Vandalia for over a year in 2015-2016. I have personal experiences and through corroboration with other prisoners, have heard many stories about the current suffering within IDOC and many other prisons throughout the country, specifically with regard to mail banning / and scanning.
Altho i am not speaking of behalf of any organization, i have been a regular volunteer at Midwest books to prisoners that provides literature and educational material free to people in

prison across the country. MWB2P has released a report on the dangerous effects of mail scanning and banning in prisons in other states with regard to the effects on well being, intellectual freedom and freedom of speech rights of prisoners. I urge this body to read this report , read and consider the words of the people who will be affected most from this mail banning policy , the prisoners themselves, and consider the negative effects of converting to mail scanning before you surrender the rights and dignity of many thousands of people to this dystopian policy

Mail is the only window to the outside world for many within IL prisons and beyond. It is for many the only source of information on what is happening in the outside world . it is one of the few connections to loved ones for prisoners. The maintenance of these connections is imperative not just for rehabilitation but for our collective humanity, for staying healthy and having hope in a dark and lonely place. I ask you to consider how important it is for someone to get a letter in prison. People tape their letters, drawings, pictures from loved ones to their bed, so that they can look at it and are reminded of their family each and every day; this helps maintain a sense of hope, for some, the only thing keeping them going. . I Ask you if you've ever kept a letter from a loved one. Without these tangible relations, prison just becomes a human disappearing, misery machine even more than it already is.

it is already a shame that prisoners already exist in a box, an information desert - consider the internet is banned, access to well stocked libraries is limited/ what do you want people to do? There are not an abundance of meaningful activities for people in prison to engage in to stimulate the mind and body -

People independently or through solidarity groups like the organization I volunteer at try to fill this void by sending material to our communities in these prisons, but our work is in jeopardy with these changes.

I ask, what negative effects with regard to educational and intellectual stimulation and mental health, have you considered for incarcerated individuals with these mail restricting policy changes?

There is no data that shows that mail scanning reduces contraband in a meaningful way. Where's the data driving this policy change? We have seen an abundance of high profile but false and inaccurate reporting of prison guards getting "frozen" and hospitalized, ostensibly from contact paper laced w drugs. I call BS - they are faking it. that's not how this work, many many times medical experts have debunked this. This is a problem because the stated reason to convert to mail scanning is to protect the health of the guards themselves, although it is absolutely known that guards are bringing the drugs in, which we have seen time and time again with guards getting caught doing this. my question is how rigorous of an analysis of the data have you made before committing to voting on a substantial change in policy which effects the free speech rights and rights to information for many thousands of people in Illinois prisons?

Have the guards in the mail room considered using gloves and masks , or any PPE while sorting people's mail?

if you want to stop substance abuse, you should provide treatment to people and address the root cause of issues- the state seems to insist on the failed viewpoint that punishment is the prerogative for prisoners instead of rehabilitation. the circular logic of making daily life continuously and increasingly more difficult and miserable and expecting better results - If you take away people's physical connection to people, if you stop people from receiving letters from loved ones , if you stop the books from getting into people's hands, if you stop people, the opportunity to exercise their mental facilities, why wouldn't prisoners want to smoke k2, a

substance similar to cannabis, or use any another substance. I mean, what else have you given them to help reconcile yhwi violent tensions that exist everyday for the prisoner in relation to their captivity? I know that in my experience at Vandalia, that although there are a few trade programs available, it is only available for at maximum around 80 prisoners in a prison of 2000 people. The large majority have little to do for stimulation, we could have this opportunity to rehabilitate through education but IDOC is not doing this. These conditions are barbaric, warehousing people and expecting them to end up better.

If you want to stop substance abuse, you will do more for rehabilitation , education, personal growth. Seems you are focused on preventing drugs from coming in the facilities, at the cost of free speech in the form of limiting mail being sent to prisoners. Why is prevention of the influx of drugs the focus of ending substance abuse in prisons as opposed to enacting data driven mental health services for prisoners, which recommend education and health and family services Furthermore, according to your proposed policy and how mail scanning has rolled out in other states, mail will be automatically disapear after 6 months on tablets - you can request a photocopy, but the availability of this has been limited and an additional burden and hurdle on prisoners. This is egregious, many folks such as myself have spent over a year incarcerated in IDOC prisons, and consistently refer back to older letters for clarity, hope, inspiration, and any other reason imaginable. Does one's free speech have a time limit? Are you going to make sure that people's letters are available without an automatic deleting feature>? are you going to make sure that these tablets are sufficient to allow folks to peruse their mail in a way that isn't burdensome or cumbersome?

Additionally, there is cost concern- tablets are not cheap, while mail certainly is.

Mail scanning costs a fee per page for prisoners , using an app, will you consider this a barrier for free speech for prisoners, the cost required to view their own mail? WIll tablets be another expensive item that prisoners will have to purchase with their own, often limited funds? Would you consider the cost of a tablet at all a burden to prisoners within IDOC?

Energy - The cost to power tablets for each prisoner in immense, on a number of levels. There are nearly 38,000 prisoners in Illinois - In order to allow each prisoner to have their freedom of speech to receive mail, each person would have to have their own tablet - This is an immense resource cost for IDOC, for the prisoner, and also importantly, for the earth. And this would likely be a tablet with 'sandboxed' software on it, meaning only software allowed by the third party and IDOC, which makes the tablet unuseable in the free world after release from incarceration. So disposable tablets. But it's not just 38,000 tablets needed - there is bed rotation, meaning that this is going to be a number in the tens of thousands EACH YEAR of tablets- this is an astronomical expense considering that IDOC does not have any plan for downsizing its prisoner numbers or closing down facilities in the near future, meaning we will be producing hundreds of thousands of tablets in the next decade, based on the policy shifts we are doing now. The damage to the earth is very calculable and not at all difficult to imagine for the lay person - that is a lot of rare earth minerals and sophisticated chip technology, its expensive pollution toll on the ecosystem through pollution and difficult extraction methods that also involve a huge degree of human labor exploitation. Have you considered these costs?

One more aspect of the energy costs associated with these tablets would be the cost of energy to power the batteries of these tablets. Thats a huge number each month for electricity, that IDOC will have to pay - will Illinois taxpayers approve of this expense of powering 38,000 tablets daily?

Have you also considered the power outlet situations in the prison units? My experience in

multiple divisions in Vandalia is that there are but a handful of power outlets in each unit, considering many old prisons were not built to accommodate prisoners having personal electronic devices that need charging. It is not at all hard to imagine the conflict created by the competition to use the very limited power outlets needed to charge these tablets, which would provide a dangerous inconvenience to anyone who simply wants to read the mail that they were sent.

This also raises the question of the digital divide - People in prison live in a vacuum away from technology and the internet, staples of our modern society that everyone in the free world has to use and navigate merely to exist in a modern society. When you are in prison, you are rippled out of that society, and are experiencing a smaller part of the human experience. For example, when i went into prison, smart phones were not yet ubiquitous in the free world - but when i got out, seemed everyone was using them for every everyday operation and communication . For folks who spend years behind bars, they are lost when they are released, this effectively is a new form of punishment. These tablets will also prove an unnecessary technological burden for older folks stuck within the prison system, many would have trouble navigating the byzantine series of applications and bogus frustrating not working well tech designed by these private prison companies, do you think that these applications would be as easy to use as standard available software in the free world, as to allow folks who are not as technologically proficient to use them in a way that guarantees their right to free speech?- do you feel that this would be a barrier to intellectual freedom?
People in prison should have access to the internet, it is obvious that prisoners SHOULD get tablets and have access to the internet, but not at the cost of loss of physical mail. But you will not do all that, citing some security issue, but consider the lack of access to information that exists in prison, and ask yourself, are we really rehabilitating people if we disconnect them from one of the most important utilities in our modern free society, the internet?
Perhaps most importantly, physical mail has been one of the signature trademarks of our federal government, our country. The equality inherent in the idea that everyone can send or receive a information from across the country has been a wonderful advancement in humanity and society- the idea that we would deprive this to prisoners amount to a censorship and further eroding of people from having a social life, a serious barrier to rehabilitation, the ostensible purpose of incarceration. This already is happening in many states, do you feel this policy change is potentially a solution nation-wide, that none of the over 2 million prisoners should receive mails? That we should make over 2 million tablets and make prisoners buy them?
Are you worried about any precedents set regarding this rolling back of the very American right to physical mail?
How are you going to ensure that legal / privileged mail is secured and not surveilled or scanned by some prison security algorithm, which would be a violation of attorney client privilege> is there a method you are going to do this that is consistent>
12 - robust data security and privacy - Nothing in this law discusses the privacy of prisoners - Scanning people's mail allows for surveillance on personal and private information contained within people's mail, as well as for the family and friends or anyone else who have legitimate reasons to context prisoners and the right to privacy in doing so. There already of course is a security process in the mail room, but it does not involve a robust and automatic analysis of the content of the letter which could be fed into any number of algorithms designed by third parties in the name of "security". Would this be a violation of privacy in your considerations?

In an era marked by increasingly dystopian an enshittified technological consolidations in the hands of yhe rich and powerful, do you have worries about privacy loss or violations of human rights with this policy change?
I also urge that if you go forward with mail scanning, you should return the mail back to people who sent the letter as opposed to destroying it.
Lastly I would just like to say that the people IDOC chooses to incarcerate have rights and dignity, this is in jeopardy with this proposed mail scanning policy - if you are not able to provide human rights to prisoners , should you be incarcerating people at all?
Illinois has the chance to be a model for the rest of the country, our leaders although flawed in many ways, are trying to turn the tide against the increasingly fascist political landscape brought about by the Trump regime. We are asking you to stand up for the dignity of people in your ward, to not surrender to the current moment where rights are stripped without a fight.
Thank you for your time. I hope you consider these words and the words of others behind the wall and do NOT switch to a mail scanning policy in Illinois
Jason Hammond

Comment:
Kathryn Anderson (written)
Hello,
Please don't take away mailing from incarcerated people. This is a vital form of communication for people and is cruel to take that away from them. It's their connection to people outside and will silence them further to not have this, which is unjust. They're already isolated enough.
Best,
Katie

Comment:
Finley McFadden
Hello,
As an Illinois resident concerned with the well-being of incarcerated individuals in our state, **I object to the proposed rule to replace prisoners' physical mail with digital scans**. Mail is a vital connection between incarcerated people and their loved ones. Digital scans create additional distance and sever the personal connection that physical mail holds. My mother's personal experience with digital scans of mail from herself to an imprisoned man in Texas has been nothing but negative. Digital scanning has caused huge delays in communication, harming this man's ability to maintain relationships with friends and family, including my mother. Prisoners in Illinois should continue to receive their physical mail, NOT digital scans!
Finley McFadden

Comment:
Emma Connor (written)
To whom it may concern:
I write as a concerned Illinoisan and attorney in Chicago regarding the proposed plan to codify the current practice of scanning inmate mail and retaining personal items. There is significant research that shows that maintaining close ties with the community is central to preventing re-

offenses and lowers recidivism rates. Given that the Illinois Department of Corrections is currently not able to report on its own recidivism rates, as a citizen and taxpayer in this state, it would be more meaningful to me if the DOC spent our resources to obtain accurate data and keep the people of our state safe, not to obtain the personal photos and drawings of children to their parents in order to punitively deny human compassion to those who are already being punished.
I do not think that preventing these individuals from feeling love or care from their communities, or that depriving them of any comfort during their incarceration makes me or my fellow Illinoisans safer.
Sincerely,
Emma Connor
Emma V. Connor, J.D., LL.M.
She/Her/Hers
E emma@pewlaw.com
P 312.235.8300
The Monadnock Building
53 W Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1025
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Comment:
Nan Bateman (written)
Please change your policy to allow incarcerated folks to receive mail directly from their friends and family. It seems unnecessarily harsh to deprive them of these items.
Thank you,
Nan Bateman
Plainfield IL

Comment:
Alea Challenger (written)
To Whom It May Concern:
As an Illinois resident, I strongly oppose the Illinois Department of Corrections permanently adopting the emergency rule that restricts the distribution of original physical mail.
Everyone deserves to receive mail from their loved ones while they are incarcerated. Receiving mail is a critical piece of human connection and dignity. Restricting physical mail that has already been inspected robs people from precious, sentimental items such as handwritten notes, artwork, and photos.
Restrictions of physical mail makes a significant impact on incarcerated people - impacting mental health, behavior, and even increasing recidivism upon release. There is no public safety purpose to mail restrictions. It is a cruel abuse of power.
As a community member, I support Senate Bill 2445 that prohibits denying physical mail to incarcerated people.
Thank you for your attention.
Best,
Alea Challenger

Comment:
Elizabeth S Ignasher (written)
To whom it may concern,
As a citizen of Chicago, I oppose banning paper mail. It cuts people off from their communities and makes them less safe. When going through a difficult time and trying to rehabilitate, people need the support of their communities to raise them up, make them believe they can be better and to give them a connection to the life they want to live after incarceration. Do not cut these people off from their communities.
Sincerely,
Elizabeth S Ignasher

Comment:
Jaci Sullivan (written)
I do not support the removal of access to mail for incarcerated individuals. Inmates need access and communication with their communities. Cutting inmates off does not make our communities more safe.
Jaci Sullivan

Comment:
Margaret Fitzpatrick (written)
Hello,
I am writing to express concern over, and objection to the Illinois DOC proposed policy to restrict incarcerated people from receiving mail.
Preventing incarcerated people from receiving communication from their loved ones is cruel and inhumane. Further, if public safety is the ultimate goal, this policy is defeating that purpose. It is well documented that isolating prisoners from family increases the recidivism rate once they are released. Family relationships also improve mental and physical health outcomes while incarcerated, something that could positively affect the healthcare budgets for prisons, and prevent violence among prisoners.
Please see the references below.
Please do not cut people off from their support systems by denying them access to their child's drawings and from receiving birthday cards and letters of encouragement. The proposed rule does not protect the public or further the goal of rehabilitation.
Best Care Always,
Margaret
Margaret Fitzpatrick, MS, RN, CRNA
author of Getting the Best Care
773-919-9002

Comment:
Clara Trippe (written)
Hello,
As a resident of Chicago and an American citizen, I am writing to you today to express my deep disagreement with the Illinois Department of Corrections' attempt to permanently stop all

mail to incarcerated people. Mail is a lifeline for those who are incarcerated, and the human rights of those this country imprisons is not up for debate.
Incarcerated people have parents, siblings, children, and loved ones who have the right to continue to be a part of one another's lives, and family separation is a cruel and unusual punishment. While this country continues to increase its prison population through the use of a highly militarized, corrupt, and racist police state, incarcerated people continue to deal with torture, sexual abuse, and a denial of adequete food and medicine at facilities across the country. Preventing incarcerated people from having multiple avenues of communication with the outside world protects state employees that use their position of power to harm, and as someone whose taxes pays for these peoples' salaries I strongly object to the Department of Corrections' attempt to attack of American's right to free speech.
This is a disgusting attack on human decency with a clear goal of protecting abusers within the system.
Sincerely,
Clara Trippe

Comment:
Rebecca Sambol (written)
Good afternoon,
I am writing to ask you to please not take away paper mail from people who are incarcerated. This practice which has been in place must not be codified into policy.
It is well documented that the vast majority of drugs enter jails and prisons through guards, not through soaking mail in drugs. Testing comes back as a false positive all the time.
Scanning people's mail, denying them the right to see and touch their letters, sent photos, and drawings done by children, does not prevent drugs from entering correctional facilities. What is does do is further alienate incarcerated people from their families and any support networks they may have.
This could only contribute to recidivism when people are cut off from their supports.
It does not make communities safer.
Please make decisions that actually help incarcerated people and the communities they reenter, that actually make them safer.
People are paying attention. Please do the right thing.
Thank you,
Rebecca Sambol
Skokie, Illinois

Comment:
Brea Morris (written)
Hello,
I am writing to express serious concern about the practice of screening, delaying, or restricting incarcerated individuals' mail. Particularly when it results in cutting people off from their families, friends, and broader communities.
Mail is more than just a form of communication; it is a vital connection to the outside world, a source of emotional support, and often the only lifeline for those in institutional settings. When

mail is screened excessively or withheld, it can cause significant harm. It isolates people from loved ones, erodes trust, and undermines rehabilitation and reintegration efforts. For many, receiving letters, photos, and messages from the community provides a sense of belonging, hope, and stability that cannot be replaced by limited digital contact or monitored communication systems.
I understand and respect the need for safety and compliance with regulations. However, these objectives can and should be balanced with humane policies that preserve meaningful communication. Transparent guidelines, timely delivery, and respect for privacy can all be achieved without depriving individuals of connection and dignity.
Best regards,
Brea A. Morris
217-454-1340

Comment:
Harper Crewse (written)
Hello,
My name is Harper and I am a Chicago resident. I am writing to oppose your proposal to remove physical mail from reaching incarcerated people. Mail is one of the only ways that incarcerated people can connect with the outside world. The proposal to have incarcerated people view mail digitally will not work. Prisoners do not have ready access to the technology required to view the mail throughout their time inside. If this proposal is implemented, parents will not have access to their children's artwork. Grandparents will miss photos of their growing families. Brothers will miss out on their sister's weddings.
Severing connection between incarcerated people and their loved ones on the outside is a recipe for recidivism. If people who are locked up are unable to keep deep connection with their friends, families, and faith leaders, when released they won't have the necessary support system to reintegrate. We must avoid this at all costs. Everyone agrees that crime is an issue in Illinois -- taking away incarcerated people's pulse on their loved ones is only going to result in more crime.
Thank you for your time. I urge you to not further isolate incarcerated people from their loved ones further.
Respectfully,
Harper Crewse
60625

Comment:
Leah von Essen (written)
Hello,
I would like to submit my absolute opposition and dismay at the effort to permanently stop incarcerated people from receiving mail.
Mail is a lifeline for countless incarcerated people and their families and loved ones. It is a cheap, accessible way to communicate, and helps people whose loved ones don't live close to their facilities to not fall prey to isolation, loneliness, and despair.
For anyone who claims that online mail systems are the same, they aren't. I've been a pen pal with countless people on the inside, and the online mail systems are expensive, exploitative, and difficult to use.

Books-to-prison organizations are also crucial lifelines. I volunteer for Chicago Books to Women in Prison, and the letters we get from incarcerated people confirm again and again that the books we send them keep them occupied, give them crucial education or life skills, and allow them to maintain a connection to the outside world.
Please *do not* pursue this action, which would be heartbreaking and disastrous for incarcerated people.
Leah
Leah Rachel von Essen
Professional Book Reviewer, Editor, and Writer
While Reading and Walking / LRVE LLC

Comment:
Anthony Podraza (written)
Good afternoon,
My name is Anthony Podraza, I'm a long time-resident of Chicago. It came to my attention recently that a program would be introduced at Illinois prisons to scan paper mail for drug-soaking and with-hold them from inmates. This presents yet another division in an inmate's attachment to community, and further isolates them from society. Not to mention it can delay vital news from reaching an inmate, or cause their loved ones to hold back in their personal letters, or not send at all.
An isolated inmate is a dangerous one, and I know that those without a strong link to their community are often the highest reoffenders. I am firmly against this program, not only for the inhumane treatment against inmates but for the potential danger it puts myself and my neighbors in in the future.
Thank you for your time,
Anthony Podraza

Comment:
Ben Fasman (written)
To whom it may concern,
I am a third generation Chicagoan, and I strongly oppose this new idea of blocking all mail to incarcerated people in the Illinois prison / jail system.
I have worked with incarcerated communities before and have seen how much a positive piece of mail can mean to a person who already has all of their rights stripped away from them by an unjust and inhumane system. I hope you will see that blocking ALL communication with the outside world will increase rates of recidivism and further lead to social isolation and anxieties, making your jobs harder, incarcerated people's lives harder and all around straining everyone connected to the criminal justice system. It doesn't take a degree in psychology or sociology to see the ways in which this plays out. But if you would like examples of this, I am happy to provide them. This whole idea seems to be created out of nothing but cruelty and such a lack of humanity that it seems depraved and insane to me. I hope that this is not the intent and this situation can be resolved by letting inmates get any mail they want to get, within reason and the letter of the law.

Comment:
Sophia Sparzo (written)
To Whom It May Concern,
As a resident of 606013, I am strongly in opposition against any codification or policy that would formalize a process of scanning in the mail of incarcerated persons rather than permitting them to receive their physical copies. Our prison system does many this with little compassion and senseless immorality to harm those who are incarcerated. Scanning in mail will not do any active service to improve the justice system or rehabilitate the population. Instead, it will separate incarcerated persons from their families and communities even more than they already are. Evidence shows that this kind of isolation worsens crime and recindivism. I strongly oppose this policy.
If you truly care to make our communities safer, efforts should be made to use evidence based intervention to improve rehabilitation of incarcerated persons such as risk reduction, education, job training, and the improving security of food, health, and safety.
Sincerely,
Sophia Sparzo

Comment:
Micah Clark Moody (written)
Attached, and written below, is my comment opposing mail scanning in IDOC.
Peace,
Micah
Fellow, Appleseed Center for Fair Courts
PhD Student, Northwestern University
As I write this, a letter from my father is framed on the desk. Pictures of my family are on the windowsill. There is art of a woman planting seeds on one wall and a person reaching through barbed wire to support a perched bird on the other. We center ourselves with physical reminders of the people we love and our sources of hope, physical reminders that are always around us.
I strongly opposed IDOC depriving incarcerated people of physical mail, a physical reminder of home and connection to their loved ones, support system, and inspiration for rehabilitation and release.
Outside support and connection are crucial drivers of rehabilitation and re-entry success. Severing these ties, including through limiting and restricting mail, stands in the way of rehabilitation.
Interacting with a picture or drawing on a screen — particularly a screen as bug-prone, unreliable, and impersonal as the ICSolutions tablets — is not the same grounding, meaningful experience as surrounding oneself of the reminders of home and words of loved ones. Think of the difference between a love letter written by hand and a series of texts. The texts matter, to be sure, and are not the same. Think of the difference between your child handing you a drawing and your child's daycare emailing you that same drawing. Both are precious, to be sure, and nothing compares to holding your child's own art in your hand and pinning it on your wall as people in all places, including prison, deserve to do.
***
If the department insists on restricting mail, I strongly encourage them to support people sending

mail by 1) mailing the physical copies back and 2) keeping the cost of mail the same or lower. Written letters, cards, and children's art are precious. People should be entitled to share these objects without them being destroyed. For example, parents shouldn't have to choose between sharing a child's art by mailing it to the prison where it is scanned and destroyed or keeping it at home. By sending mail back, people inside will also have delayed access to the physical copies when the mail is returned to their loved ones who can hold it until they come home.
Finally, mail is a less expensive way to talk to people inside. People have sent me art and letters, I am able to share long and complete thoughts that don't fit in a 15-minute call or cause tension in the phone queue. Mail is a key tether to the outside world, the outside world that is foundational to the claimed purpose of IDOC for people to be "rehabilitated" and then released back home to our communities. Separating people because it's too expensive is a senseless stress on crucial connections to home. The only sense is that major telecom companies targeting incarcerated people's families for profit — like Securus, GTL, and in the case of IDOC ICSolutions — profit. Profiting from family separation goes against IDOC's claimed commitment to "rehabilitate" and release people and deprives people of crucial connection to loved ones.
***
Because of my support for rehabilitation and family connection, I strongly opposed IDOC depriving incarcerated people of physical mail.
Sincerely,
Micah Clark Moody
Fellow, Appleseed Center for Fair Courts

Comment:
Chandler Cornwell (written)
To whom it may concern,
As an Illinois resident, I strongly oppose IDOC's program that restricts incarcerated people's access to incoming mail and in some cases only allows them to see electronically scanned images of letters and other correspondence.
It makes our Illinois communities less safe when incarcerated people are cut off from the world outside. Everyone should have the right to maintain ties with family, friends and community through mailed pictures, art, handwritten letters, and other physical correspondence. Physical mail can be a lifeline for incarcerated individuals. To reduce recidivism, IDOC should focus on helping incarcerated individuals maintain strong connections to their loved ones so that they can be supported when they re-enter the community.
Experts like those at the Restore Justice Foundation and the ACLU maintain that it is unlikely that scanning mail would be effective in stopping contraband from entering the IDOC.
As I'm sure you're aware, this practice is currently being done under emergency rules, and I would urge that it not be made permanent and codified as formal policy. Again, I strongly oppose IDOC's mail scanning program and urge the agency to preserve the ability of incarcerated individuals to access physical copies of their correspondence.
Thank you,
Chandler Cornwell
60622 Resident

Comment:
D. Patterson (written)
I've recently learned that prisons in the state of illinois would like to add more barriers to the incarcerated, by disallowing physical mail and letters under the pretense of drug enforcement. As a Chicagoan, I do not support scanning people's mail over providing them their letters, drawings and physical sense of connection to their homes and communities outside of prison. I support any actions that would improve recidivism rates; maintaining hope and real connection to home being one of the ways to keep the incarcerated from backsliding (besides job and education opportunities).
Improving public safety on drugs getting into prisons should start with ensuring guards are not incentivized to overlook or participate in giving the incarcerated access to contraband.
D. Patterson, Chicago IL

Comment:
Jessica Bishop-Royse (written)
To Whom It May Concern,
I am writing to oppose the current policy of scanning mail for people incarcerated in Illinois Department of Corrections. If the goal of the correctional system is to rehabilitate the incarcerated, then allowing inmates to have their mail (handwritten cards, photographs, and children's drawings) does this. Allowing inmates to have their physical mail after safety inspections supports healthy family relationships, increasing the odds of successful re-entry. Mail is the most accessible form of communication for many families. Allowing original mail to be delivered, with normal security checks, is a small but meaningful way to treat families with dignity, reducing the disconnection that inmates feel upon release. Please end the state-wide policy of delivery of scanned mail.
Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I welcome the opportunity to contribute to further conversations regarding this important matter.
Sincerely,
Jessica Bishop-Royse
Resident of Chicago, IL

Comment:
Eashaa Jampala (written)
Hello! I am a Chicago resident / community member / voting constituent who feels very strongly against the scanning of inmates' mail. I encourage everyone who has power to impact this potential rule to push back against permanently setting up this scanning process. By increasing scanning and vetting of mail from loved ones, our incarcerated community members are cut off from their support systems and larger community. This mail scanning does not improve public safety - it just isolates people.
Thank you,
Eashaa

Comment:
Molly Munson (written)

To whom it may concern:
We all know that keeping incarcerated people connected to their community reduced recidivism, and it improves a prisoner's health and behavior. Scanned mail is not the same as paper. Prisoners should get to have the physical connection to their loved ones, the photos, the drawings, the letters and the books. It's meaningful. I oppose scanning mail instead of delivering it.
All you're doing is forcing inmates to pay for overpriced tablets. The threat of drug and/or chemical-laced paper entering facilities through the mail is low. Studies show that contraband is mostly brought in by employees, visitors or manufactured in the prison itself.
Safer communities come from rehabilitation and post-incarceration opportunities for former prisoners.
Regards,
Molly Munson

Comment:
Kayla Goldfarb (written)
Hello -
As an Illinois resident, I strongly oppose IDOC's program that restricts incarcerated people's access to incoming mail and in some cases only allows them to see electronically scanned images of letters and other correspondence.
It makes our Illinois communities less safe when incarcerated people are cut off from the world outside. Everyone should have the right to maintain ties with family, friends and community through mailed pictures, art, handwritten letters, and other physical correspondence. Physical mail can be a lifeline for incarcerated individuals. To reduce recidivism, IDOC should focus on helping incarcerated individuals maintain strong connections to their loved ones so that they can be supported when they re-enter the community.
Experts like those at the Restore Justice Foundation and the ACLU maintain that it is unlikely that scanning mail would be effective in stopping contraband from entering the IDOC.
As I'm sure you're aware, this practice is currently being done under emergency rules, and I would urge that it not be made permanent and codified as formal policy. Again, I strongly oppose IDOC's mail scanning program and urge the agency to preserve the ability of incarcerated individuals to access physical copies of their correspondence.
Thank you,
Kayla Goldfarb

Comment:
Amelia Wyckoff (written)
Hi,
I'm emailing to let you know that as a Chicagoan, I oppose scanning incarcerated people's mail and further isolating them from their community. Cutting off incarcerated people from their communities is inhumane and increases recidivism, thereby harming and not helping both those incarcerated, their broader communities, and public safety more generally. Incarcerated people deserve dignity, communication, and respect.
Thank you,

Amelia Wyckoff

Comment:
Cassandra Williams (written)
Hello. I am writing to inform you that I believe you are wasting time and money scanning the mail of incarcerated individuals, and that it is every prisoners right to have the physical mail sent to them by their community members. Before my big brother died of a heroin overdose, he spent time in prison for crimes related to his drug addiction. We wrote countless letters back and forth, talking about how things would be different when he got out. He was going to get better and we would be a happy family. I don't have my brother anymore but I do have his letters. Not scanned copies of letters, but the actual papers he wrote on, and they mean everything to me. Prisoners deserve to have the physical copies of the letters and photos and drawings they receive from their loved ones and community members. Thank you for your time.
Cassandra Williams, in memory of Matthew Fiedler

Comment:
Laura Hilger (written)
Dear Illinois Department of Corrections and Members of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules,
I'm writing to strongly oppose the proposed rule that would end physical mail for people who are incarcerated in Illinois.
Mail isn't just a form of communication. It's a lifeline. Letters, cards, and drawings are some of the few tangible ways that families and friends can stay connected to loved ones inside. No scanned copy or digital substitute can replace the comfort of holding a real piece of mail from someone who cares about you.
Cutting off that connection would especially hurt families with limited internet access or those who can't afford to use electronic mail systems. It would also make it harder for incarcerated people to maintain the relationships that help them successfully reenter society later. Studies have shown that staying in touch with loved ones reduces recidivism and supports rehabilitation.
This rule wouldn't make facilities safer. It would simply make people more isolated and less connected to their support networks. I urge you to reject this proposal and look for solutions that prioritize safety without taking away the humanity and hope that mail provides.
Sincerely,
Laura Hilger

Comment:
Jayna Ramirez (written)
I am reaching out to you as a loved one of an incarcerated individual to let you know how angry and outraged I am as an Illinois tax payer, at the possibility of incarcerated individuals losing access to physical mail.
For families like ours, mail is not just paper-it is love, hope, and connection. A handwritten letter, a child's drawing, a birthday card signed by the whole family, a holiday greeting, or even a program from a loved one's funeral or graduation are lifelines to those inside. These pieces of mail carry the touch and emotion of family that scanned copies, or electronic messages can never

replace. Taking this away is cruel, inhumane, and unnecessary.
Prisons are hours away from our homes, and many of our loved ones are serving extremely long sentences. Mail is often the only way they can feel the warmth of family between rare visits. It is sometimes the only way they are reminded that they are still human, still loved, and not forgotten. It's bad enough that instant messaging has already been implemented and taken away.
We do not deny the reality of drug use in prisons, but punishing families and incarcerated people is not the solution. Our anger comes from knowing that while our loved ones are punished harshly, officers caught smuggling contraband are quietly allowed to resign instead of being held accountable. This double standard is unacceptable. If incarcerated individuals face consequences, then so must staff.
Everyone should be held to the same standard of accountability.

Comment:
Ruth Giles Ott (written)
I am writing to oppose rule making that cuts off prisoners' access to mail. Imprisoned people are still people, and the vast majority are people that will return to our communities. It is inhumane and cruel to keep cherished letters, drawings from children, written mementos, from prisoners. It is better for them and better for community safety, to encourage prisoners to maintain human connection and relationship. Recidivism increases among people who do not have connection to people outside of prison.
There is no need to systematically make prison as miserable as possible, to attack the mental health of inmates to the maximum extent possible. It is also dehumanizing to staff to enforce this sort of policy.
Illinois is better than barbaric states like Florida and Texas. We are a civilized people here and should act like it.
Sincerely,
Ruth Giles Ott

Comment:
Lindsey Brinkworth (written)
Hi friends,
I am writing this email to voice my strong opposition against the proposal of halting mail delivery to folks who are currently incarcerated. In my view, incarceration is not simply punitive—it is rehabilitative. There is no force more rehabilitative in this world than the connection to loved ones and community... it is my hope that those who exit the carceral system can do so with the knowledge that their loved ones are waiting to receive them with care and support, so they can move through their new freedom with love and hope. Those who complete their sentences without hearing the words of their family and people will undoubtedly be worse off.
Thank you for your time,
Lindsey Brinkworth

Comment:

Barbara Solheim (written)
I am writing to register my disgust at the cruelty of preventing inmates from getting mail. It's a lifeline to family and friends and the outside world.
Please do not do this to people.
Barbara Solheim
654 Warwick Rd
Deerfield il
60015

Comment:
Kate Williams (written)
Hi,
I am reaching out to advocate against current policies in the works that would ban physical mail from incarcerated people. I firmly believe against this policy, and worry on the effect the lack of tangible pieces of outside community would have to those incarcerated. This is not a policy that would protect public safety, as community support is a tool against recidivism, and getting physical letters and pictures, not just scans, is part of that.
Thank you,
Kate Williams
Chicago, IL
60657

Comment:
Lauren Thomas West (written)
Hello,
It has come to my attention that the Illinois Department of Corrections is seeking to instate a rule to only scan inmates mail and never give them the original. This will only serve to further divide inmates from their community and have dangerous repercussions by not allowing them to physically connect with the letters, drawings, and other materials that their family, friends, and loved ones send them.
As a resident of Illinois, I want to ensure that ALL of my neighbors are given the humane treatment of being able to accept mail and hold it in their hands.
Sincerely,
Lauren Thomas West
Evanston, IL

Comment:
Alyssa Burns (written)
Hello,
I wanted to reach out and voice my concerns about the recent efforts to limit physical mail access for people in the Illinois jail system.
This is an unacceptable and dehumanizing attempt to limit communication, a human right, for those incarcerated. Having access to these lifelines and connections is essential to reduce

recidivism and support members of our community.
We must allow those in jail to have access to their own physical mail and do not require scanning and tablets to access these messages.
Best,
Alyssa Burns

Comment:
Concerned Citizen (written)
You ought to be ashamed of yourselves for trying to take away yet another right of incarcerated individuals with some hoax about drug-soaked papers, when we all know it is your own underpaid, overworked, and corrupt Correctional Officers who account for 99% of illicit materials in facilities. This is bad data management on top of the unconscionable disregard for human rights. Cutting people off from their external communities only furthers recidivism and is counterproductive at every turn.
Best,
Concerned Citizen

Comment:
Claire (written)
I am opposed to the outdated and, far too often, false testing on incarcerated people's mail. It further cuts people off from their loved ones and personal lives. How can you expect rehabilitation when you keep people cut off from life outside of prison? Contraband more often comes in from prison staff, not the mail and photos from loved ones.
Thank you for your consideration,
Claire

Comment:
Elle Teshima (written)
To Whom It May Concern,
I am writing as an Illinois resident deeply concerned about the dehumanizing proposal to permanently codify a regulation that would withhold physical mail from people who are incarcerated in Illinois Department of Corrections Facilities. The proposed rule benefits private corporations who profit at the cost of human dignity and what already limited connection people in jails and prisons have with their friends and family members on the outside. It is unfair to refuse incarcerated people important personal effects like drawings from their children, greeting cards, or physical photographs of loved ones, and doing so has negative effects on all members of our communities. Scanned mail is not an equivalent alternative, as these digitally formatted documents are often incomplete, poor quality, and/or convey less sentimental meaning than the original versions of artwork and penmanship.
Connection to loved ones and maintained social bonds during incarceration have demonstrated impacts on recidivism and increase successful community reintegration when people are released. This crime reduction outcome speaks loudly to the benefit of increasing access to telephone, postal mail, and in-person visits, which far outweighs the risk of contraband

substances entering facilities through paper materials, particularly in light of long-known evidence that more drugs enter through correctional facility personnel than the postal system. Moreover, maintaining positive connections to loved ones on the outside can improve people's morale, and thus, their behavior while incarcerated. Reducing misconduct keeps everyone, including facility staff, safer in DOC facilities. Studies in multiple other states that have evaluated this type of regulation have indicated that scanning mail does not.
I urge you to reconsider this harmful measure and invest in public safety and the people of Illinois by restoring access to physical mail for IDOC facility residents.
Thank you for your consideration,
Elle Teshima
Source links to consider:
https://www.prisonpolicy.org/blog/2022/11/17/mail-scanning/
https://www.prisonpolicy.org/mail/
https://www.prisonpolicy.org/blog/2021/12/21/family_contact/
https://www.prisonpolicy.org/blog/2018/12/06/jail-contraband/
https://www.texastribune.org/2021/03/29/texas-prisons-drugs/
https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC6625803/

Comment:
Michelle M (written)
To whom it concerns,
I am writing to express deep concern about the current policy of scanning and digitally reproducing personal mail sent to individuals in IDOC facilities. While I understand the department's intent to increase security and reduce contraband, this practice has had a serious emotional and psychological impact on incarcerated people and their families.
Mail from loved ones carries far more than words—it carries human connection, comfort, and hope. Physical letters, drawings from children, cards, and personal notes hold emotional weight that a scanned image simply cannot replicate. The tactile experience of holding a letter written by a family member is one of the few remaining tangible links to the outside world for those incarcerated. Taking that away diminishes one of the most humane aspects of rehabilitation and connection.
Additionally, scanning mail often causes delays, poor image quality, and lost correspondence. Families already face barriers in staying connected—financial strain, distance, and limited visitation—and this policy only adds another unnecessary obstacle. Research shows that maintaining strong family bonds reduces recidivism and improves reentry outcomes, meaning that real mail is not just sentimental—it's part of successful rehabilitation and public safety.
I respectfully urge IDOC to reconsider this policy and restore the ability for incarcerated individuals to receive physical mail from their loved ones. Security can and should be maintained without stripping away one of the most personal forms of human connection.
Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope IDOC will act compassionately and prioritize the emotional well-being and rehabilitation of those in its care.
Sincerely,
Michelle M

Comment:

Sidney Trotter (written)
To whom it may concern,
I am a Cook county resident, and as a community member, I must oppose cutting off incarcerated people's communities. Banning paper mail is dehumanizing and insulting.
S. Trotter

Comment:
Kelly Schertle (written)
Good morning,
I'm writing to oppose the proposed permanent implementation of mail scanning in IDOC facilities. Physical mail is a lifeline to those who are incarcerated - switching to scanned mail is unnecessary and dehumanizing. There is no evidence that removing physical mail improves safety for people in prison. Incarcerated people have a right to receive physical mail from their loved ones and community. Please restore incarcerated people's access to physical mail now and permanently. Thank you.
Best,
Kelly Schertle

Comment:
Mia Dorrien (written)
To whom it may concern,
Scanning inmates mail is so unnecessary and in some cases cruel. A drawing from an inmates child or a picture should be delivered in its original form. No one is smuggling drugs in through paper that is propoganda. Please do not cut these inmates off from their communities. This does not improve public safety. No scanning mail.
Thank you,
Mia

Comment:
Allison Hill (written)
Good afternoon,
I am writing to express my strong opposition to mail scanning because it unjustly divorced incarcerated people from their community and loved ones.
Community care is one of the pillars that keeps our community safe and I do not believe that mail scanning advances that goal. In fact, it actively undermines incarcerated people's ability to form the critical network of care necessary to move forward after their sentence ends - which actively puts our community at risk.
Thank you for your consideration,
Allison Hill

Comment:

Wilma Nance (written)
Name
Wilma Nance
P o box 176 Sawyerville il 62085
jeannienance@yahoo.com
Date 11/13/2025

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR)
700 Stratton Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Senator Jil Tracy
208B Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Representative C.D. Davidsmeyer
202-N Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Subject: Concern About IDOC Mail Scanning Policy

Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules, Senator Jil Tracy, and Representative C.D. Davidsmeyer,

I am writing as a concerned friend of an individual incarcerated in the Illinois Department of Corrections to express my deep concern about the new IDOC mail-scanning policy implemented under the emergency rule that began in August 2025.
While I understand the Department's intent to reduce contraband, this policy creates serious emotional, practical, and constitutional issues for incarcerated people and their loved ones. Physical mail is a vital lifeline. A handwritten letter, a child's drawing, or a photo carries emotional meaning that cannot be replaced by a low-quality scan or photocopy. For many incarcerated individuals, these personal touches are their only tangible connection to the outside world.
Not everyone in IDOC has access to a tablet or the ability to view digital mail, which means some people will experience further isolation and communication barriers. There are also privacy and data-security concerns regarding how scanned images are stored and accessed.
Furthermore, using an emergency rule to implement such a sweeping change denied the public a chance to participate in the decision-making process. This policy should go through the normal rulemaking process to allow for transparency, legislative oversight, and input from families and advocacy groups.
I respectfully urge JCAR and my local legislators to review and oppose this mail-scanning policy until a fair, transparent, and humane system is established — one that preserves safety without destroying the personal connection that mail provides.
Thank you for your time and attention to this
Sincerely,
Wilma

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR)
700 Stratton Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Senator Jil Tracy
208B Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Representative C.D. Davidsmeyer
202-N Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706

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Thank you for your time and attention to this
Sincerely
Wilma Nance
Sent from my iPhone

Comment:
Demi Witter (written)
I am a community member in opposition of the IDOCs further weaponization of communication toward incarcerated folx and their loved ones. Stop blocking their mail. It is not just an act of carceral violence, but one of reproductive violence.

Comment:
Jamie Sung (written)
Hello,
I saw online that Illinois is considering ending Mail to incarcerated people. I cannot fathom why the Department would consider such a profound act of cruelty and sadism. Mail is a lifeline to people in the correctional system. It is antisocial to force them to go without a vital means of communication and will harm their chances of reintegrating or reconciling with the outside world.
Please reconsider this heartless act before it is too late.
Signed,
A concerned citizen

Comment:
Corinne Derusha (written)
Please do not cut off mail services for those incarcerated. Access to family and support is vital and cutting this off would be cruelty not rehabilitation

Comment:
Pam Barron (written)
My son was incarcerated for almost 4 years when he was 18 y/o for a crime he allegedly committed, during his first month at college, when he was admittedly under the novel influence of drugs and alcohol.
He was a fragile young man when he began his sentence. We prayed every day that he would not lose heart or lose his true identity, which was a very tender-hearted, bright young man.
I wrote to him every week. And I photocopied and kept all of my letters, to make sure that he got every one. His father, and siblings, and family all wrote to him, too.
He called when he could. I will never forget the way my heart raced every time the phone rang, and how I would be so relieved when I knew it was him. He would only be able to talk for a few minutes.
We visited twice a month, and watched him grow from a boy into a man while he was in prison. He told us that the phone calls were too short, and the visits were awkward and uncomfortable, hating the fact that we had to travel there, and go through security, and see him in prison.
He told me many times that the thing that kept him hopeful, and kept him from giving up on himself was my letters.
He was fortunate to be able to go to school when he was there. He earned an associate degree and certificates for both culinary and landscaping. When he came home, after a period of adjustment, he continued school to get a Bachelor's degree, had a full-time job in which he got promotions, and began to slowly feel re-integrated with society.
Ten years later, there continue to be many restrictions on his life, however. As a convicted sex-offender, he will be on a registry for life. He is not allowed to be in public parks or on school property. He is restricted as to where he can live and where he can travel. Our local police come to our house every 3 months. We cannot have trick-or-treaters. Some of these restrictions are

local to our town (a perplexing thing, since the next town over is drastically different).
But it was those letters, written with fidelity, and frequently, which kept him moving forward to be the best he is allowed to be.
Please support SB2445. For my son and many, many like him, letters from home are a lifeline, and a huge influence in reducing recidivism.
You may reach back to me at any time if I can be of any help in this matter.
Pam Barron
Downers Grove, IL

Comment:
Danielle Hirschhorn (written)
Thank you for taking the time to hear from me. I live in Chicago, IL and wanted to reach out to share that I oppose the scanning of mail for incarcerated individuals. This cuts people off from their families and communities and it has been shown to increase recidivism. Not allowing people to have letters, drawings, and other paper mail does not make me feel more safe and is a cruel practice.

I appreciate your consideration of my request.

Best,
Danielle Hirschhorn

Comment:
Morgan Breitbach (written)
To Whom It May Concern:
As an Illinois resident, I strongly oppose the Illinois Department of Corrections permanently adopting the emergency rule that restricts the distribution of original physical mail.
Everyone deserves to receive mail from their loved ones while they are incarcerated. Receiving mail is a critical piece of human connection and dignity. Restricting physical mail that has already been inspected robs people from precious, sentimental items such as handwritten notes, artwork, and photos.
Restrictions of physical mail makes a significant impact on incarcerated people - impacting mental health, behavior, and even increasing recidivism upon release. There is no public safety purpose to mail restrictions. It is a cruel abuse of power.
As a community member, I support Senate Bill 2445 that prohibits denying physical mail to incarcerated people.
Thank you for your attention.
Best,

Morgan Breitbach

Comment:
Audrey Catalano (written)
Hello,

My name is Audrey Catalano and I live in Chicago, IL. I am writing to voice my opposition to all mail scanning and/or digitization of mail in IDOC facilities, and I believe that doing so cuts people off from the support and care that they rely on from friends and family on the outside. The proposed mail scanning/digitization rule would have dire effects on my loved ones inside IDOC facilities. I urge you not o move forward with this rule.
Thank you,

Audrey Catalano

Comment:
Karen Kortsch (written)
Glen Austin, IDOC,
1021 North Grand Ave. East,
Springfield, IL 62702

Mr. Austin,
I am writing to you to let you know that I am opposed to the scanning of mail at IDOC facilities. As a mental health professional, I know that this will be something that negatively affects the mental health of incarcerated people. I have not seen any convincing data that shows that mail scanning will increase safety at facilities. Please reconsider this rule.
Sincerely,

Karen M Kortsch
630-337-1963

Comment:
Alyssa Meurer (written)
Hello Glen Austin and JCAR,
My name is Alyssa Meurer, and I am a civil rights attorney with years of experience working with currently and formerly incarcerated people and their loved ones. I write today in strong opposition to IDOC's proposed permanent rules for mail scanning, for several reasons.

First, **physical mail is a lifeline for people inside IDOC**, as it creates a tangible connection between incarcerated people and their loved ones on the outside. This tangible object simply cannot be replaced by a scanned image (even assuming that the image is scanned perfectly and able to be viewed without any technological issues). Robust research shows that **maintaining ties to one's friends, relatives, and communities during incarceration is key to reducing recividism and facilitating re-integration into society after release**. These ties will be greatly weakened by this rule, which transforms handwritten mail into impersonal digitized scans. Indeed, I have heard from several community members that the mail scanning rules have already discouraged them from continuing to write to their incarcerated loved one.

Further, I personally know several people who came home from prison with a stack of all of the letters that they received during their incarceration, which would not be possible with this rule

given its short expiration date for scans to be accessible and the impossibility for incarcerated people to bring their scanned mail home.

Second, this rule creates **huge barriers for legal advocates** like me who send hundreds of letters out to our clients every month. I am personally co-counsel on a major class action lawsuit which affects everyone inside IDOC, so I am regularly in contact with thousands of clients. Forcing me to go through a multi-authentication process to individually track each piece of mail I send out will be an enormous time burden. There must be simpler ways to authenticate legal mail, such as the unique stamp that UPLC already uses for our legal mail.

Lastly, I have great concerns that this authentication process will slow down an already slow process of getting crucial legal information to my clients, which could affect court deadlines and my clients' substantive rights to access the courts. Furthermore, UPLC has already heard from some of our clients that their legal mail has been scanned, which is an irreparable breach of confidentiality. I fear that the mail scanning rule will lead to more of this irreparable damage.

Third, **there is no evidence that this mail scanning rule will fix the contraband issue in IDOC**, which is its purported goal. Indeed, we do not have any data supporting the notion that a majority (or even significant portion) of incoming drugs come from mail. This rule is premature given the lack of data reported, and is absolutely misguided in its intention to quash incoming contraband. Indeed, in other states that have implemented mail scanning, overdoses have either remained constant or even *increased*, all while the people inside and their loved ones suffer from these harsh rules.

In summary, this rule is harmful to people incarcerated in IDOC and IDOC's rehabilitative mission, incredibly costly for legal advocates, and misguided in its goal. It will do more harm than good. Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Best,
Alyssa Meurer

Alyssa Meurer, Esq.
Pronouns: she/her
Staff Attorney, Larsen Justice Fellow
Uptown People's Law Center

Comment:
Anthony Hintze (written)
Glen Austin, ICOC
1021 North Grand Ave. East
Springfield, IL 62702

I am an Illinois resident who opposes the plan to scan all prisoner mail. It is one more way to

remove direct contact with the outside world from prisoners. This policy is directly opposed to what human beings need, especially when trying to rehabilitate their lives. Books, personal letters, photos, and cards are all important to someone already locked away from their loved ones.

The rationalization that this has much, if anything at all, to do with the influx of drugs is spurious at best.

Anthony Hintze
1716 W. Albion #1B
Chicago, IL 60626

Comment:
John McDonough (written)
To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing in opposition to rules encouraging permanent statewide mail scanning in Illinois prisons. I understand that contraband in these facilities is a real problem, but mail scanning isn't the solution. There's little evidence this works effectively, and the drawbacks are significant. It's crucial that our prisoners are able to keep in touch with their communities and loved ones to help ease the burden of returning to society once they've served their time. Mail scanning cuts off this essential connection, undermining rehabilitation, and doesn't make our facilities safer.

Thank you for your time.

John McDonough
2214 W Argyle St
Apt #1
Chicago, IL 60625

Comment:
Ana Olivares (written)
I am writing to express my strong concerns about the proposed shift towards digitizing incarcerated individuals' mail, with the intention of eliminating physical mail. I believe this decision would have detrimental consequences for those who are already facing significant challenges.
Incarcerated individuals, as you know, are already deprived of many forms of connection to the outside world. They are often isolated from their families and communities, and the physical mail they receive is a vital link to their loved ones, offering a tangible sense of connection, comfort, and support. Holding a letter or a card from a family member or friend provides them with a sense of humanity in an environment designed to strip away dignity. The emotional impact of receiving a physical letter cannot be overstated—it is a symbol of love, care, and continuity with the outside world.
Moreover, I am deeply concerned about the practicality and efficiency of digitizing mail. As a current user of the CorrLinks app, I know firsthand the frustrations that come with delayed

communication. At times, it can take over a week to receive an electronic message, and I am deeply concerned that introducing another layer of bureaucracy and review for physical mail will result in even longer delays. The process of digitizing and reviewing letters will inevitably add multiple steps to the current system, further hindering timely communication and exacerbating feelings of isolation for those already deprived of freedom.
Furthermore, it is my understanding that these scanned mail will only be available for a limited amount of time. Can you imagine losing a letter from a loved one that has passed?
If urge JCAR to reconsider the approach. Adding stringent processes without increasing staff or resources will only complicate an already overburdened system. It is crucial to ensure that any system changes prioritize the well-being and dignity of incarcerated individuals, and that their ability to maintain connections with loved ones is not unnecessarily hindered.
I hope you will reconsider this policy and take into account the emotional and practical consequences of removing the opportunity for physical mail. Incarcerated individuals deserve to experience the simple, yet meaningful act of receiving a letter, just as anyone else does. Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.
Sincerely,
Ana Olivares

Comment:
Twiggiemrl@gmail.com (written)
I'm writing to make my voice & the opinion of my community hats during the public comments phase of the IDOC role making process. I oppose mail scanning because, beyond any supposed benefits, it is truly just admire isolating degradation forced uppn incarcerated individuals. People who are incarcerated and their loved ones know that staying connected is an essential, beneficial form of support. Most people in prison will someday return home to our communities. Making it harder for them to stay connected to their support systems does not make anyone safer, inside and outside of prison.

Comment:
Phyllis Huggins (written)
Becoming A Voice and not an echo
P.O Box 436999
Chicago Illinois 60643
Phyllis Huggins
President

I have a pen-friend ministry that corresponds with 300 men and women throughout Illinois. The scanning of mail will prevent them from sending cards and pictures to their loved ones. It will not allow them to go back and pick up a letter or picture and read it again and again to help shed some light into such a dark place.

How you can deny someone this one piece of sanity is beyond me. What kind of example are we showing incarcerated individuals who already have lost hope. My husband and I started this ministry because we were having a cell to cell witnessing event with a church and we came

across a man who was serving a very long sentence. He had no visitors and no one to write to him. This is why we started this ministry, so everyone behind bars would know at least one person cared.

Please do not deny these men and women such a small comfort.

Comment:
Alenka Figa (written)
To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to OPPOSE IDOC's attempt to institute a permanent physical mail ban. I am a community member and librarian; I have helped many people who were formerly incarcerated make resumes and apply for jobs to re-enter the workforce. People who have been incarcerated need hope and connections to the outside world, so they can make plans to get their lives on track once released - the people I've helped would not be in a place to be working on resumes without snail mail, and connections to their loved ones and friends. Receiving real mail helps reduce recidivism and can connect incarcerated folks to lifesaving resources that will bolster their mental health in the moment and keep them connected to folks outside who can get them to resources like the library, which will help them get their lives back on track.

As a librarian and a community member I say: NO MAIL BAN!

Thank you,

Alenka Figa

Comment:
Hayley Mason (written)
Good morning,
As a resident of Illinois, I am writing today in opposition to the screening of mail and distributing photocopies to inmates. This is not only a cruel severing of community but also a mismanagement of time and resources. This does not make myself, or my community safer.
Thank you,
Hayley Mason
Chicago, IL

Comment:
Brian Beals (written)
The Mud Theatre project is opposed to implementing mail scanning for incarcerated individuals because it adds another element that diminishes the socialization of incarcerated individuals. Forming attachments is an essential part of being human and taking away important letters, cards or other correspondence is an obstacle to that essential part of human nature that is important to forming and maintaining healthy relationships.
The Mud Theatre Project was created inside the IDOC and without the instruction, letters and other correspondence we received from organizations and other supporters it's doubtful we

would have been able to develop into a viable organization working to repair harms using the arts.
For those reasons and more we ask that mail scanning isn't implemented.

Thank You
Brian Beals

--
Brian Beals
Executive Director
Mud Theatre Project
mudtheatreproject.org

Comment:
India Hilty (written)
Good afternoon,

My name is India Hilty. I am a Chicago resident, I have previously served as volunteer teaching faculty with Northeastern Illinois University's Bachelor's Degree program at Stateville Prison, and I am currently a medical student at the University of Chicago.

I am strongly opposed to the proposed IDOC rule transitioning to digitized mail service. Every person who is incarcerated in Illinois should have the right to access physical mail from loved ones, community members, and educational institutions. They should not face further restrictions preventing them from being able to access this important connection to their community of support on the outside. Letters and photos are an invaluable source of meaning and connection for people who are incarcerated. I vividly recall multiple students telling me about photos of their mom/dad/kids that they have carefully kept for 10+ years and provide a sense of purpose and source of love during difficult days. I am deeply concerned about the mental health impacts this proposed rule may bring about because important pieces of people's lives of stripped away from them or only accessible via tablet. People should be able to receive their physical mail.

It appears that the proponents of this rule are framing this as a safety issue and to decrease the transfer of potentially hazardous substances and/or contraband into IDOC facilities. Research from Restore Justice has demonstrated that mail scanning is **NOT** an effective or evidence-based method for eliminating contraband.

Transitioning to mail scanning services also introduces additional cost that will likely fall on either people who are incarcerated in IDOC or their loved ones — with profits lining the pockets of telecommunications executives who can continually hike up prices.

This proposed rule has immense potential consequences for people who are incarcerated. If IDOC cares about rehabilitation, we should not be implementing this proposed rule.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
India Hilty

Comment:
Jesse Vail (written)
Hello,

I am emailing you to urge you against implementing mail scanning in Illinois prisons.

Mail scanning doesn't actually eliminate contraband in prisons, allows unnecessary surveillance and violates privacy (not just the incarcerated person's either), denies their right to a valuable connection to home, and prevents rehabilitation that a connection to the outside world provides.

I hope implore you to do the right thing and not take away inmate's physical mail.

Thank you,
Jesse Vail/Chicago resident

Comment:
Lucas Herzog (written)
To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Lucas Herzog, and I'm a resident of Chicago. I am writing to express my opposition to the statewide implementation of mail scanning within IDOC. I have incarcerated friends and family, and one of the few things they have to look forward to in prison is receiving physical mail. It's an important way for them to feel connected to their loved ones on the outside, a touch of humanity, which digital scans of handwritten letters cannot replicate.

Please discontinue the policy of mail scanning within IDOC and reinstitute physical mail.

Sincerely,
Lucas Herzog
773-682-3796

Comment:
Mounica Kota (written)
Good afternoon,

My name is Mounica, and I am writing to provide public comment on the coming decision to permanently implement mail scanning in Illinois prisons.

I am writing to strongly **oppose** the state-wide mail scanning measure. Incarceration is already

such an alienating experience, and the move to replace mail with scanned copies will only further the isolation and alienation that incarcerated people experience. I communicate regularly with people in prisons, and I know that the feeling of connection that comes from receiving a penned letter or card, to be able to hold the same piece of paper as a loved one, makes all the difference for someone longing for connection.

I have sent mail to prisons where they already implement scanned mail policies, and the extra labor involved in scanning files means that mail is lost/never received, often scanned in the wrong order, damaged and scanned poorly, and even when it makes it to the recipient, loses a big layer of the care of the initial piece of mail.

Incarcerated community members often leave prison to come back into our broad communities. Their ability to re-integrate well, to survive the isolation of incarceration and return home, depends on their ability to remain connected to those in the outside world. Connections are critical, as everyone knows.

Please do not make it even harder for people to remain connected during their periods of incarceration. There is no reason to scan mail that isn't already covered in the extensive screening processes of mailing in the DOC. Our incarcerated community members deserve access to the actual mail they receive, not poorly scanned copies.

Thank you.

Best,

Mounica K

Comment:
Claire Musial, Office of the State Appellate Defender (written)
Good morning,

Enclosed, please find the Office of the State Appellate Defender's response to IDOC's proposed Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) system.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,
Claire

she/her
Claire Musial | Director of Support Services
Office of the State Appellate Defender
Administrative Office
P: 312-814-5472
Claire.Musial@osad.state.il.us | https://www.illinois.gov/osad

(Letter)
OFFICE OF THE STATE APPELLATE DEFENDER
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
400 West Monroe • Suite 202
Springfield, Illinois 62704
Telephone: 217/782-7203 • Fax: 217/782-5385
www.illinois.gov/osad/ • E-mail: osad@osad.state.il.us
JAMES E. CHADD
STATE APPELLATE DEFENDER
KERRY J. BRYSON
SHAWN O'TOOLE
DEPUTY STATE APPELLATE DEFENDERS
LAURA A. WEILER
DIRECTOR OF TRAINING _____
AGENCY OFFICES:
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
203 North LaSalle Street, 24th Floor
Chicago, IL 60601
(312) 814-5472
1stDistrict@osad.state.il.us
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT
One Douglas Avenue
2nd Floor
Elgin, IL 60120
(847) 695-8822
2ndDistrict@osad.state.il.us
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
770 E. Etna Road
Ottawa, IL 61350
(815) 434-5531
3rdDistrict@osad.state.il.us
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
400 West Monroe Street, Suite 303
Springfield, IL 62704
(217) 782-3654
4thDistrict@osad.state.il.us
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
909 Water Tower Circle
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864
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5thDistrict@osad.state.il.us
EXPUNGEMENT / SEALING UNIT
400 W. Monroe Street, Suite 202
Springfield, IL 62704
(866) 787-1776

Expungement@osad.state.il.us
JUVENILE DEFENDER RESOURCE CENTER
400 W. Monroe Street, Suite 202
Springfield, IL 62704
(217) 558-4606
jdrc@osad.state.il.us
PRETRIAL FAIRNESS UNIT
203 North LaSalle Street, 24th Floor
Chicago, IL 60601
(312) 814-5472
PFA@osad.state.il.us
November 14, 2025
Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules and Illinois Department of Corrections Director Latoya Hughes:
The principal function of the Office of the State Appellate Defender (OSAD) is to represent indigent persons on appeal in criminal cases when appointed to do so by an Illinois court. The vast majority of OSAD's appointed clients reside in Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) facilities. OSAD has an ethical and legal duty to communicate with our clients, and the primary means of doing so is via privileged legal mail. In 2024, alone, OSAD sent 24,841 pieces of legal mail to our clients in the custody of IDOC. IDOC's recent emergency amendments to Part 525 of Title 20 of the Illinois Administrative Code, adopted August 14, 2025, and currently under consideration for permanent adoption pose a serious impediment to OSAD's ability to communicate effectively with our clients. Accordingly, for the reasons stated herein, OSAD strongly urges JCAR to reject IDOC's proposed rules.
IDOC's proposed Multi-Factor Authentication [MFA] system will significantly increase the time it will take OSAD staff to prepare and send mail to clients in IDOC custody. OSAD currently has 2,063 clients in the custody of IDOC. In an average week, OSAD sends nearly 500 pieces of privileged legal mail to those clients. OSAD estimates it will take its support staff at least a few minutes per mail piece to log into the MFA system, generate a control number, and affix that control number to the associated mail item. That means 25 extra work hours per week for OSAD staff to send legal mail to our clients in custody. It would have meant more than 1200 additional work hours in 2024, alone.
The additional steps required for processing the mail in the MFA system will also increase the likelihood of errors that will result in a delay in our clients receiving important legal mail. Significantly, IDOC's User Guides for its MFA system indicate that mail with a missing or incorrect sender ID or control number will be rejected and returned to the sender, yet IDOC is not required to take additional steps to attempt to authenticate the mailing before rejecting it. The

appeals process requires a timely receipt of all court-related documents, and any delay in receiving these documents will negatively impact our clients' rights where we are bound by tight filing deadlines. And, there is an additional expense associated with resending rejected mail, which will range from the minor cost of re-mailing a letter to the significant cost associated with re-sending a weighty package, such as those including the client's copy of the report of proceedings in his or her case. Of course, there will be additional work hours to re-send returned mail, as well.

Legal mail is not a luxury, but rather is a necessity under the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct. Those rules require attorneys to maintain communication with a client concerning the representation, including any decisions requiring the client's informed consent, the means to be used to accomplish the client's objectives, the status of the client's case, reasonable requests by the client for information, and any limitations on the representation. To that end, there are no viable alternatives to regular, timely communication via legal mail. Additional attorney-client phone calls and in-person visits will increase scheduling work for IDOC staff, will increase travel time and expense for OSAD attorneys, and will cause additional delays in communication with clients in custody where calls and visits are of limited availability and generally must be scheduled weeks in advance.

OSAD is almost certainly the single largest sender of legal mail into IDOC facilities. As such, OSAD and its clients will bear the brunt of the additional burden imposed by IDOC's proposed MFA system. To date, IDOC has not contacted OSAD for its input on its proposed rules or the MFA system it seeks to implement.1 Nor has IDOC demonstrated a clear and urgent need for the additional burden created by the MFA system. IDOC's own response to JCAR's objection to its emergency rulemaking states:

Drug- or chemical-soaked paper enters facilities in several ways, with mail being a very common avenue. In 2024, drugs were discovered in 211 pieces of mail: 159 discoveries in non-privileged mail, and 52 discoveries in mail marked as "Legal." As of September 9, 2025, drugs have been discovered in 126 pieces of mail this year, with 106 discoveries in non-privileged mail, 17 discoveries in mail marked as "Legal," and 3 instances where the type of mail was unknown.

49 Ill. Reg. 12813. As noted above, OSAD sent 24,841 pieces of legal mail to clients located in IDOC facilities in 2024. The 52 discoveries of drugs in mail marked as "legal" would constitute 0.2% of the mail OSAD sent to IDOC last year, and an even lower percentage of the entirety of legal mail sent to IDOC. Legal mail is not the problem here, certainly not to an extent necessary to require the onerous MFA system being proposed.

1In its response to JCAR's objection to its emergency rulemaking, IDOC indicated it had conducted stakeholder communications with Restore Justice, Crossroads Prison Ministries, Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender, John Howard Association, CHANGE Illinois, and the Women's Justice Institute, as well as AFSCME, which represents IDOC staff. 49 Ill. Reg. 12815-16.

In Turner v. Safley, 482 U.S. 78 (1987), the U.S. Supreme Court held that the standard for determining the constitutionality of a prison regulation that burdens an inmate's constitutional rights is whether the regulation is reasonably related to a legitimate penological interest. Turner, 482 U.S. at 89. Here, given the relatively few

identified instances of drugs being introduced into IDOC via legal mail, the additional burden imposed by IDOC's proposed MFA system is not justified and is inconsistent with Turner.
As noted at the outset, we urge JCAR to reject IDOC's proposed rule amendments. Additionally, we hope JCAR will encourage IDOC to engage OSAD in its stakeholder discussions regarding processes to authenticate privileged legal mail in a manner that protects both individuals in custody and IDOC staff without causing delays in communication between attorneys and their clients.
Thank you for your time and attention to these issues.
Sincerely,
JAMES E. CHADD
State Appellate Defender
Douglas R. Hoff, Christopher McCoy
1st Judicial District, Deputy Defender 2nd Judicial District, Deputy Defender
Santiago A. Durango Catherine K. Hart
3rd Judicial District, Deputy Defender 4th Judicial District, Deputy Defender
Amanda R. Horner Carolyn R. Klarquist
5th Judicial District, Deputy Defender Director of Pretrial Fairness Unit

Comment:
Timothy W Lake (written)
I think prisoners should still be able to receive actual physical mail. This scanning is just a way to enrich the scanning company or a way to enrich the DOC. Any contraband getting in from the corrections officers. Of course that will never be addressed.

--
Timothy W. Lake

Comment:
Nicole Busino (written)
I do not agree with having mail privileges taken away from inmates. I have direct experience with people impacted by this decision. It promotes recidivism, not helps it decline. People deserve to grow and heal and they need their community to be loving in order for that to happen. Isolation for inmates is not a good idea.

Comment:
Pamela Lake (written)
Good morning,
I am advocating for the immediate cease of mail scanning within the IDOC. Communication with loved ones is vital for the men and women incarcerated within our Illinois facilities. My son looked forward to the many greeting cards I would send him. Now, he gets nothing, even though those cards were created online and sent from an outside vendor!!! Scanning cards, letters, and

photos deprives inmates of a personal connection with family. Many families live far away from a prison facility, and mail is an essential connection for them. I fear that mail scanning may deter some families from even writing letters and sending cards. My son has heard that often the images are blurry.

Mail scanning does not prevent contraband from entering correctional facilities. I have read that other states have attempted mail scanning, and have noted an INCREASE in contraband.

I also understand that Illinois just implemented a new contraband tracking law. How have our correctional facilities had enough time to track exactly how the contraband is getting into prisons?? I have not seen any data published by the DOC regarding this "tracking of contraband." I fear that even officers are bringing in contraband. Are officers being searched when they arrive at work???

In summary, let's stop mail scanning immediately. Real mail is a joy to receive! Thank you for your attention to my concerns.

Sincerely,
Pamela Lake

Comment:
Rebecca Levin (written)
Please find attached comments from TASC (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities) regarding the proposed rule on revisions to 20 Ill. Adm. Code 525 implementing mail scanning.

Thank you.

Rebecca Levin, MPH (she/her/hers)
Vice President of Policy
TASC, Inc. (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities)
700 S Clinton St | Chicago, IL 60607
Tel: 312-573-2946 | **Mobile**: 312-391-6558 | **Email**: rlevin@tasc.org | Personal LinkedIn
Find us on Facebook | Follow us on Twitter | Connect with us on LinkedIn
Virtual Business Card

(Attachment)

November 19, 2025
Glen Austin
Illinois Department of Corrections
1301 Concordia Court
P.O. Box 19277
Springfield, IL 62794
Submitted electronically to DOC.ProposedRulemaking@illinois.gov

RE: TASC Comments on Proposed Rule Revising 20 Ill. Adm. Code 525

Dear Mr. Austin:

TASC (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities) appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the proposed revisions to Illinois Administrative Code, Title 20, Chapter 1, Subchapter e, Part 525: Rights and Privileges published on October 10, 2005.

Founded in 1976 and operating statewide, TASC is a non-profit organization committed to preventing and reducing people's involvement in the criminal legal system by facilitating connections to care in the community. We specialize in solutions at the intersection of health and justice and are designated by the State of Illinois to conduct substance use disorder assessments as well as provide Specialized Case Management™ services for eligible individuals involved in the courts or released from prison. Specialized Case Management includes comprehensive, trauma-informed support to individuals with substance use and mental health disorders. Through coordinated service planning, cross-system navigation, and sustained engagement, TASC facilitates access to treatment, promotes recovery, and advances long-term stability and public safety. When TASC is involved, people are more likely to engage and complete their treatment.

One of TASC's longstanding areas of service is our Corrections Transition Programs. We screen individuals admitted to IDOC for substance use disorder (SUD) and provide pre- and post-release support to individuals in IDOC. We are proud and honored to collaborate with IDOC to help system-impacted individuals pursue recovery and interrupt the cycle of incarceration for people with behavioral health disorders.

Based on this expertise and experience, TASC opposes the proposed rule to make permanent IDOC's recent mail scanning policy.

While TASC understands IDOC's goal of eliminating contraband from prisons and commends IDOC for its concern about incarcerated individuals' access to drugs, the proposed rule is the wrong approach. Because data are not yet available on what contraband is entering facilities and how it is entering, the extent to which mail is the route of entry is unknown. This gap in data will be addressed by Public Act 104-0412, which was recently signed by the Governor. Until the data are available, it is premature to permanently implement this mail scanning policy. Moreover, mail scanning is not an evidence-based method for eliminating contraband, and the experience from other states has shown it to be ineffective.

Instead, the most effective approach to addressing drug use in prison is to provide every incarcerated individual who has a SUD with clinically indicated comprehensive treatment.

IDOC already has a solid foundation to build upon, such as the partnership with TASC and treatment in prisons, including the intensive programs at Sheridan and Southwestern Correctional Centers. Exciting new opportunities exist as IDOC expands access to Medications for Opioid Use Disorder and begins to implement the 1115 Medicaid Waiver. TASC would welcome the chance to collaborate with IDOC, other state agencies, and community-based behavioral health providers to develop a comprehensive continuum of SUD prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery that can meet the needs of every incarcerated individual.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

In service,

Joel K. Johnson
President & CEO
TASC, Inc. (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities)
(312) 573-8260
jkjohnson@tasc.org

Comment:
Colin Mays (written)
To cease mail going back and forth between people is unconstitutional. A person still has rights even while in an institution.
Right now there are more and more innocent and nonviolent people being taken into prisons that need evidence, paperwork, or signatures in order to get out. Not to mention hope in order to survive. If you take away a person's hope that might be in that mail, you are condemning them.
If you can't be convinced by digital text, then go ahead and visit someone who is incarcerated. Hear the stories of those who were broken before they arrived to a prison, and listen to how they've been shattered since staying at a prison.
If you wish to stop violent acts, let people have access to compassion and love and hope and a taste of the real world.
For some people, the only way to get that,
Is by mail.

Please, reconsider this. The only emergency is the one you might be making here.

Comment:
Sarah Ross (written)
Hello!
My name is Sarah Ross. I've been a volunteer teaching in IL State prisons for over 13 years. Before that I taught through Danville Area Community College and Lakeland Community College for 6 years.
I have dedicated my life to supporting education opportunities to incarcerated people and I KNOW how important mail is.

The new proposed rule for mail scanning constitutes another private contract with another private company, that expands the demands on the IDOC budget. Already IDOC fails to staff prisons such that classes are cancelled and other programs cut. Adding yet another corporate contract to IDOC eliminates the jobs of the mail room and again, outsources-- often to other states-- jobs. Further, **WE ALL KNOW THAT DRUGS RARELY COME INTO THE PRISON VIA MAIL.** Everyone knows this. We know this because in past episodes of drugs in IL State prisons, it's been the GUARDS that bring in drugs. This is an internal problem for IDOC and should not be taken out on IL tax payers. Further, we know that in some states, drug use and overdoses have increased after the implementation of mail scanning policies. We know that this policy is a guise that will increase the expenses of the state.

FINALLY-- **this is a human issue.** We all know that getting a hand-written letter in the mail from a parent, child or friend cannot be translated through a scanned a card. Getting mail-- real mail-- is essential, it's the most basic shed of dignified life people in prison can experience.
We also know that mail scanning **WE KNOW THAT TRANSFERS MORE COSTS ON TO FAMILIES.** This state should be ashamed of itself that this is even an option.

Despite all the wonderful work that IL has done to reduce the prison population, these policies undercut it at every turn.

PLEASE DO NOT approve mail scanning contracts. INSTEAD let's maintain our system of using the postal service and IDOC workers to do their jobs.

THank you.
Sarah Ross

Associate Professor, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Comment:
Amir Badri (written)
Dear Mr. Glen Austin,

I am writing as a friend of a former IDOC inmate to urge the Illinois Department of Corrections to reject the proposed permanent amendment to 20 Ill. Adm. Code 525, specifically regarding scanning of physical mail. Physical mail includes books, magazines, religious materials, and letters from loved ones.

My school mate who served time in an IDOC center and I were pen-pals during his time inside. I sent him many books, magazines and messages of support during his time. It wasn't until after he was released that he told me how much those letters helped him. That they reassured him of hope and of what awaited him after his release.

He once told me that receiving letters from his family and friends was the only thing that gave him the strength to keep going. Please, I implore you to not take this away from the people inside who have already lost so much.

While I was in trade school learning, one of my teachers was a former IDOC inmate. He told me that the two things that helped him reforme were hobby-craft shop and the letters he received from his family.

Both my friend and teacher continue to live good lives after their release and contribute positively to the community. In no small part I'm sure because of the love and letters they received through the mail.

To scan a letter and provide a digital version is no replacement for the genuine article. I'm sure there are arguments for how allowing people serving time to have mail could be troublesome. However I hope you recognize the physical love that a paper letter represents. Please don't strip that shred of love from an increasingly loveless world.

Thank you,
-Amir Badri

Comment:
Denny Kinderman (written)
To Whomever,

I am a Catholic priest who has been in touch with incarcerated people for 25 years. I visit youth weekly in the Cook County JTDC. II have visited men in various facilities in Illinois. I write to many incarcerated men in Illinois.
I recently received a letter from Centralia telling me that my latest letter to him was missing the bottom portion on his tablet. I think cards are especially important in helping keep an atmosphere of calm in the facility - and can be taken as a constant reminder when the person is released.
I ask that you continue to allow or return to allowing original, physical mail to be given to the IDOC incarcerated individuals.
Has there been any thorough study proving that drugs are entering through letters and cards? If so, find a way to detect - maybe have the mail sniffed by trained dogs. Can such a study be done and the result published for transparency?
Thank you for reading and please take what I'm writing to heart.

peace, Fr Denny Kinderman, CPPS

--
Fr Denny Kinderman, CPPS
Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation
PO Box 09379
Chicago IL 60609
773-991-5861

Comment
Sarah Unruh (written)
I am writing to oppose the move to scan all correspondance to people incarcerated in IL prisons. The excuse used to justify this move is not evidenced-based or presented in good faith. The harm it will cause will be devastating.

Before I moved out of IL, I worked for the Education Justice Project, which provides college education to incarcerated people. I have hugged men whose lives were changed for the better by these opportunities to receive higher education. Restricting mail and other materials to be scans of original documents will impede these opportunities, slow the work of organizations like the Education Justice Project, and make life for everyone impacted by incarceration so much worse.

How dare you take away the few connections these people have to their loved ones and the outside world!? How dare you make everyone less safe by causing such harm to people behind bars!?

Taking away people’s connections to the outside world will only make people more broken. This will contribute to the pain and suffering in IL and beyond. In times when we need healing,

connection, and community more than ever, the move to scan mail undermines these efforts and makes everyone less safe.

I oppose mail scanning for IL prisons. Shame on those who would put this into practice.

-Sarah Unruh

Comment:
Sam Fluxgold (written)
As an Illinois resident, I strongly oppose IDOC's program that restricts incarcerated people's access to incoming mail and in some cases only allows them to see electronically scanned images of letters and other correspondence.

It makes our Illinois communities less safe when incarcerated people are cut off from the world outside. Everyone should have the right to maintain ties with family, friends and community through mailed pictures, art, handwritten letters, and other physical correspondence. Physical mail can be a lifeline for incarcerated individuals. To reduce recidivism, IDOC should focus on helping incarcerated individuals maintain strong connections to their loved ones so that they can be supported when they re-enter the community.

Experts like those at the Restore Justice Foundation and the ACLU maintain that it is unlikely that scanning mail would be effective in stopping contraband from entering the IDOC.

As I'm sure you're aware, this practice is currently being done under emergency rules, and I would urge that it not be made permanent and codified as formal policy. Again, I strongly oppose IDOC's mail scanning program and urge the agency to preserve the ability of incarcerated individuals to access physical copies of their correspondence.

Thank you,
Sam Fluxgold

Comment:
Dinesh McCoy (written)
Dear IDOC and Governor Pritzker,

As an Illinois resident, I strongly oppose IDOC's program that restricts incarcerated people's access to incoming mail and in some cases only allows them to see electronically scanned images of letters and other correspondence.
It makes our Illinois communities less safe when incarcerated people are cut off from the world outside. Everyone should have the right to maintain ties with family, friends and community through mailed pictures, art, handwritten letters, and other physical correspondence. Physical mail can be a lifeline for incarcerated individuals. To reduce recidivism, IDOC should focus on helping incarcerated individuals maintain strong connections to their loved ones so that they can be supported when they re-enter the community.
Experts like those at the Restore Justice Foundation and the ACLU maintain that it is unlikely

that scanning mail would be effective in stopping contraband from entering the IDOC.
As I'm sure you're aware, this practice is currently being done under emergency rules, and I would urge that it not be made permanent and codified as formal policy. Again, I strongly oppose IDOC's mail scanning program and urge the agency to preserve the ability of incarcerated individuals to access physical copies of their correspondence.

As a civil rights lawyer myself, I've seen how people in prison face the mental health consequences of being cut off from their loved ones. People who made mistakes deserve our compassion and care. We want people to come out of prison empowered to be their best selves. Staying connected to loved ones is an essential part of that.
Thank you,
Dinesh McCoy
Chicago, IL

Comment:
Rachel Cohen (written)
Hello,

I am writing as an Illinois resident to oppose the proposed permanent amendment to 20 Ill. Adm. Code 525, specifically regarding scanning of physical mail. People who are incarcerated deserve access to their physical mail, which helps them stay connected to loved ones and community on the outside. This in turn helps them avoid recidivism upon release, because community ties are essential to lower risk of reoffense. There is no data supporting the idea that paper is a major driver of contraband coming into facilities. The proposed rule strips people of community ties for no real reason at all.

Best,

--
Rachel Cohen

Harvard Law School, J.D. 2022
The Ohio State University, B.A. 2014

Comment
Sanjana Segu (written)
Dear IDOC,

As an Illinois resident, I strongly oppose IDOC's program that restricts incarcerated people's access to incoming mail and in some cases only allows them to see electronically scanned images of letters and other correspondence.
It makes our Illinois communities less safe when incarcerated people are cut off from the world outside. Everyone should have the right to maintain ties with family, friends and community through mailed pictures, art, handwritten letters, and other physical correspondence. Physical

mail can be a lifeline for incarcerated individuals. To reduce recidivism, IDOC should focus on helping incarcerated individuals maintain strong connections to their loved ones so that they can be supported when they re-enter the community.
Experts like those at the Restore Justice Foundation and the ACLU maintain that it is unlikely that scanning mail would be effective in stopping contraband from entering the IDOC.
As I'm sure you're aware, this practice is currently being done under emergency rules, and I would urge that it not be made permanent and codified as formal policy. Again, I strongly oppose IDOC's mail scanning program and urge the agency to preserve the ability of incarcerated individuals to access physical copies of their correspondence.
Thank you,
Sanjana Segu (she/her/hers)

Comment:
Jake Dunskis (written)
Good evening,

I am an Illinois resident based out of Chicago, and I am emailing you in regard to the Illinois Department of Corrections rule that largely eliminates physical paper mail for most incarcerated people within state prisons.

While I do believe there are a multitude of logistical issues, specifically surrounding various legal documents & the security of sensitive digitized documents, the main reason I oppose is due to the emotional impact.

Being able to hold and reread in your own privacy is an innate human urge. There's security and emotional intimacy to the exchange of letters that I believe is mitigated by the digitization of personal letters. People deserve the right to revisit a loved one's words and messages at their leisure, and that is simply impossible with a digitized letter. While these may be incarcerated individuals, they still have emotional needs, and our justice system simply cannot assist & rehabilitate them, as needed, without allowing for emotional support and development.

I have believed the Illinois justice system has progressed forward to rebuke its troubled past. However, this move disappoints and saddens me; as it is clearly a step in the wrong direction.

It is for these reasons as well as others, that I am emailing you to share my objection to this policy and to urge the Illinois Department of Corrections to reverse this policy, and, once again, allow inmates within Illinois to receive physical mail.

Thank you,
Jake Dunskis

Comment:
Francesca Morris (written)
Francesca Morris
915 Giddings St

Danville, Illinois, 61832
Blackrain1113@gmail.com / 447-217-9180,
11/20/2025

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR)
700 E. Adams Street, Room 610
Springfield, IL 62701
Re: Opposition to IDOC Mail Scanning Rule – Request for JCAR Intervention

Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules,
I am writing to urge JCAR to reject or halt the continuation of the Illinois Department of Corrections' mail-scanning policy. While I understand the need for safety, this emergency rule has caused real emotional harm to families and raises serious concerns about transparency, rights, and rehabilitation.
1. Physical mail is irreplaceable.
Letters, cards, artwork, and photos are some of the only ways families can stay connected with loved ones in custody. A scanned image on a tablet cannot replace the feeling of holding a handwritten letter or a child's drawing. These items carry emotional weight, scent, texture, and meaning that digital copies simply cannot replicate.
2. The emergency justification is questionable.
There has been no publicly available data proving that physical mail is the primary source of contraband entering Illinois prisons. Many states that implemented mail scanning have not seen reductions in drug incidents. Families deserve real evidence before a rule like this is made permanent.
3. Privacy and due process concerns.
Mail scanning creates a digital database of personal family communications with no clear limits on storage, access, or deletion. People in custody should not have their emotional memories reduced to files controlled by a private vendor.
4. Harm to rehabilitation and mental health.
Maintaining strong family ties is one of the most important predictors of successful reentry. Taking away tangible mail weakens these bonds and increases the emotional isolation that incarceration already imposes.
5. Alternatives exist.
Targeted screening, improved staff training, detection technology, and selective scanning of suspicious mail would address safety concerns without removing physical mail from every incarcerated person in the system.
I respectfully ask JCAR to:
• Object to the continuation of the emergency rule
• Require IDOC to provide transparent data before any permanent rule is considered
• Protect the right of incarcerated individuals to receive meaningful, physical, personal mail
• Involve families and advocacy groups in the rulemaking process
This issue affects thousands of Illinois families, including my own. I ask you to consider the human impact of this policy and the role that genuine communication plays in healing, stability, and successful reentry.
Thank you for your time, your oversight, and your commitment to fairness in the rulemaking

process. I hope you will stand with families and protect the right to real, physical mail.
Sincerely,
Francesca Morris

Comment:
Connie Dixon (written)
Dear Mr. Glen Austin,
Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules,
I am writing to urge you to **reject the Illinois Department of Corrections' proposed permanent amendments** that would eliminate physical mail and in-person visitation for the 30,000 men and women in IDOC custody.
For years, Illinois law and administrative code (20 Ill. Adm. Code 525) have recognized that maintaining family ties and access to the outside world are essential to rehabilitation and public safety. Study after study shows that regular in-person visits and physical letters, photographs, and children's drawings dramatically reduce recidivism and improve mental health behind bars.
Yet in 2025 IDOC has:

- Ended almost all in-person visits, replacing them with expensive, glitch-prone video calls that families must pay for; and
- Begun scanning and destroying original letters and cards, forcing incarcerated people to view images of their loved ones' handwriting on a tablet screen — or not at all if they do not have tablet access.

These changes were imposed through an "emergency" rule that bypassed normal public input.
The November 4 public hearing made it clear: families, formerly incarcerated people, faith leaders, disability-rights advocates, and prison monitors overwhelmingly oppose this policy.
There is still no public evidence that scanning and destroying mail has reduced drug introductions more effectively than existing searches, drug dogs, and ion scanners. Meanwhile, the human cost is undeniable: children cry because they can no longer hug their parent; elders who never learned tablets are cut off from their families; and the small, priceless comforts that keep people alive inside are disappearing.
I respectfully ask the Joint Committee to:

1. Vote to **block** the proposed permanent rule that eliminates physical mail and publications;
2. Require IDOC to restore meaningful in-person visitation at all facilities; and
3. Insist on transparent data proving that the current digital-only system is both necessary and effective before any permanent change is allowed.

Illinois should be leading the nation in humane, evidence-based corrections — not copying the most punitive and profit-driven policies from other states.
Please stand with families and with rehabilitation. Reject the permanent digital-only rules.
Thank you for your time and for your commitment to fairness and public safety.
hand out at a rally, just tell me and I'll write it in two minutes. You've got this.

Please do not implement this policy, which is harmful not just to people in prison, but correctional officers and the broader community.
Sincerely
Connie Dixon,

Concerned citizen/tax payer/family member of an incarcerated person

Comment:
Janet Jackson (written)
I am in favor of physical mail, not mail to view on the screen, which is cold and impersonal. A card or a letter from one's child is cherished for years and years. It does not appear on the screen which is erased after 6 months Once you cannot hold a screen when I put the letter underneath your pillow one can't touch what their child has touched. To take one's Mail away is inhumane. No amount of video viewing can make up for the touch of a card or a letter. If IDOC is so worried about drugs they need to look at the reviews from other states who have tried this and have found that drugs are not coming through the mail that are coming into the prison in another way. scanning mail takes time effort and is exceptionally costly. This is not a solution for what IDC beliefs to be their drug problem. This is just a simply feel good act which is not feel good.

Rev. Dr. J. Jackson
130 N Main St,
East Peoria, IL 61611

Comment:
Anthony Baran (written)
Dear Mr. Glen Austin,

I am writing to you today as a concerned Illinois resident, taxpayer, and advocate for the vulnerable and the unheard, to strongly oppose the proposed permanent amendment to 20 Ill. Adm. Code 525. I urge the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) to reject this move toward digitizing and eliminating physical mail, including personal letters, religious texts, and books.

We currently have data from at least 25 other state prison systems that have implemented similar mail bans. The evidence clearly demonstrates that these policies are counterproductive and often result in a "chilling effect" that drastically reduces the amount of communication between incarcerated people and their support systems.

While the stated intent of this amendment is to stop contraband and improve safety for officers and the public, the facts suggest that mail scanning fails to achieve these outcomes:

It does not stop contraband: Evidence from states like Pennsylvania, New Mexico, and Missouri shows that banning physical mail does not stop drugs from entering prisons. In New Mexico, positive drug tests actually doubled after scanning was implemented, and in Pennsylvania, they nearly tripled. Similarly, Missouri saw an increase in overdoses after putting these policies in place.

It is not necessary for officer safety: Fears regarding officers overdosing due to incidental contact with mail are not based on medical science. Toxicology experts have established that brief skin contact or inhalation near contaminated paper is insufficient to cause an overdose. Consequently, this policy addresses a risk that is virtually nonexistent.

Furthermore, switching to digitized mail actively harms rehabilitation efforts. Physical mail is a cost-effective and vital lifeline for those inside. Holding a physical letter from a child, parent, or spouse provides a tangible sense of hope and motivation that a digital copy cannot replicate. Studies consistently show that maintaining strong family ties significantly lowers recidivism rates.

Finally, I am deeply concerned about the lack of clarity regarding "privileged" and "legal" mail in this proposal. The rules do not sufficiently explain how sensitive documents—such as health records or post-conviction petitions—will be protected, nor do they guarantee that this essential correspondence will remain private and undelayed.

Please reject this policy. It is ineffective at stopping drugs, scientifically unnecessary for safety, and harmful to the rehabilitation of incarcerated individuals.

To support and impose the policy is to inflict a cruel and unusual punishment on an already deeply disempowered class of people.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anthony Baran,

Concerned Citizen
&
Taxpayer

Comment:
Adam Babel (written)
Hello,

My name is Adam Babel, a resident of Chicago, IL, registering my opposition to any bills that would allow mail scanning in state prisons.

Thank you,
Adam

Comment:
Ezra Imes (written)
Good afternoon,

I'm writing to express in the strongest terms my condemnation of the practice of mail scanning in Illinois prisons. Incarcerated people deserve to receive physical materials from family, friends, and loved ones, without being subject to increased surveillance and dehumanization via mail scanning.

Evidence shows that mail scanning does not reduce drug use within prisons. This article links to several studies showing that mail scanning, in fact, is instead associated with **higher** risks of drug use and overdose in prisons and jails. This legislation creates a needlessly complex administrative system that is susceptible to technical issues and abuse.

Do not move forward with mail scanning in Illinois prisons. Promote rehabilitation instead by preserving dignity and compassion for those incarcerated.

Best,
Ezra Imes
Resident: 60304

Comment:
Natalie Faver (written)
Mail scanning fails to eliminate contraband in prisons, which is the problem it claims to solve.
Mail scanning creates low-quality copies that are blurry and consistently delayed.
Mail scanning increases costs for loved ones while major telecommunication companies profit.
Mail scanning authorizes unnecessary surveillance and violates privacy.
Mail scanning strips people who are incarcerated of a valuable, physical connection to home and stands in the way of rehabilitation.

--
Natalie Faver

Comment:
Amber Wilson (written)
Good afternoon from Chicago, where it has been gray and overcast but at least it's not snowing.

Mail scanning does not make prisons safer. States such as Missouri, Pennsylvania, and New Mexico have found that replacing people's real actual mail with scans did not reduce drug problems inside the prison.

Mail scanning is a pointless expense. It is an outlay of effort with no proven benefit, besides perhaps lining the pockets of telecom companies.

Mail scanning is a pointless delay. The time it takes to make a scan creates additional lag between the mail being delivered to the institution and the recipient getting a weak facsimile of their mail.

Mail scanning prevents people from getting their mail, in a qualitative way. I am sure that you, personally, have observed the difference in quality and meaning between the original of a document and the scan of a document. Low resolution, smears, lines cut off, words blurred... An original document is always preferable and there is no good reason not to let people get the mail that's sent to them.

Mail scanning is an unfair interference in the personal lives of people both in and out of prison. Not only is an original document easier to read, an original letter is an artifact of a relationship. To hold something in your hand that you know your loved one also held is part of the human experience. To send something to a friend, pen pal, or loved one is to have faith that the work of your hand will reach that person, and be held by them. People put their hearts into their communications, and there's no reason to throw away those communications and replace them with copies. And worse, the difference between a photo and a scan of a photo can be night and day! A scan printout can never replace the real thing.

Preventing people who are already isolated from getting the letters and pictures they're sent is cruel.

I don't think mail scanning is justified in Illinois prisons, and it should NOT become a permanent practice.

Thanks for your time,
Amber

Comment:
Carolyn Laughlin (written)
I am deeply concerned and confused by the prohibition on physical mail to incarcerated individuals in Illinois.

Evidence is scant that the practice of receiving letters, cards and photos from loved ones inflicts harm on prison personnel or the public. Because of extremely limited issues, the vast majority of incarcerated who rely on these physical pieces of mail for emotional sustenance are being punished - as are limos us who care about these people.

I implore you to reconsider this inappropriate and inhumane policy, and allow the connections that are invaluable to be maintained.

Carolyn Laughlin
2414 Lawndale Ave
Evanston, IL 60201

Comment:
Alex Morse-Hambrock (written)
To whom it may concern,
I am an Illinois resident living in Cook County, and I want to express my opposition to the implementation of permanent mail scanning procedures in Illinois prisons at the end of the current six month trial period. Throughout the entire process IDOC has presented flimsy data and been unable to answer basic questions about the actual justification for the system.

If there are real safety issues for IDOC employees caused by drug contraband entering through the mail, they should have at least one single case in which a medical or toxicological professional *verified* the presence and exposure to an illicit substance associated with a hospitalization. To my knowledge there have been none.

Absent this evidence, this looks like a big giveaway of taxpayer dollars to a private contractor for a lucrative service that will substantially reduce the quality of life for people in Illinois prisons and their loved ones outside. I hope you will make the right decision when the time comes to determine the next steps for this program.

Thank you,
Alex

Comment:
Denise Bartik (written)
Hi, my name is Denise Bartik. My husband has been in prison for 47 years. I am very disappointed that the IDOC has decided to eliminate inmate physical mail. Inmates increasingly have their rights, support, and privacy taken away. IDOC says they encourage families to stay in contact with incarcerated loved ones but their actions further isolate inmates. While physical mail is a source of drugs entering prisons, I don't believe it is the MAIN channel for drugs entering prisons.

I visit my husband often and, while waiting to be processed for my visits, I have seen staff members coming in to work with their clear vinyl bags. The staff walk through a metal detector but the vinyl bags are slid down a counter around the outside of the metal detector. No one looks in those bags even though I am not hiding the fact that I am watching them. Those bags are certainly big enough to carry drugs into the prison undetected. When I tell others about this, they affirm that they have witnessed the same thing in the prisons they visit. That is why it is important to PROVE by data collection that the physical mail is the primary source of drugs in the prisons.

I heard that one prison had a recent "surprise" inspection of staff entering the prison. A staff member was standing outside the prison walls signaling those coming to work that an inspection was taking place. A bunch of those workers turned around and went back to their cars for a minute before going in to work. There should have been drug sniffing dogs in that parking lot.

No study has been done to prove mail scanning is effective in stopping the drug flow into prisons. In a Missouri study drug overdoses increased in the first three months of mail scanning. In a New Mexico study, the rate of positive random drug test results almost DOUBLED when mail scanning was implemented. Prisons are well known for making communication with loved ones difficult or impossible. Inmates are HUMAN BEINGS. Eliminating physical mail cripples an IMPORTANT, tangible connection to home. It further isolates inmates from their loved ones. It takes the joy of sending a letter or card away from loved ones who are OUTSIDE THE PRISON too. We are all being punished for something a few are doing. This policy discourages loved ones from writing and that takes an

emotional toll on inmates. My husband and I do not give each other gifts for a birthday, Valentine's Day, or Christmas. Instead, we agreed many years ago to not open our birthday, valentine, or Christmas cards to each other until the actual birthday or holiday. You are robbing us of the joy of anticipating the opening of that card because it pops up on his tablet when IDOC scans it.

Inmates want to have cards and letters that were actually touched by the sender, not received on a screen. It is a little piece of home.

A Mississippi warden noticed that, during COVID when visitors, volunteers, and vendors were not allowed in prisons, that the drug problem did not decrease AT ALL. He investigated and found the source of the problem and he fired HUNDREDS OF GUARDS for bringing drugs into his prison. Illinois, Wake Up!

Thank you for reading my concerns.

Comment:
Christopher Brozdowki (written)

I urge the Illinois Department of Corrections to reject the proposed permanent amendment to 20 Ill. Adm. Code 525, specifically regarding scanning of physical mail.

The proposed claims to be necessary in order to prevent contraband from entering prisons. This is not a valid approach.

Mail scanning does not prevent the inflow of contraband. In states like Missouri, New Mexico, and Pennsylvania, mail scanning has increased rates of positive drug tests in prisons. In New Mexico and Pennsylvania, positive drug tests doubled and tripled, respectively, after mail scanning was implemented. In Missouri, drug overdoses in prisons increased after mail scanning was put into effect. To deprive someone of their connection to the outside is inhumane and drives them to further seek the escape of drugs.

Mail scanning does not protect correctional officers. Toxicology experts have found that brief skin contact with or inhalation of potentially contaminated mail is not enough to cause an overdose. Thus, the risks of accidental exposure are slight or potentially nonexistent.

Finally, the rule must provide clear definitions and examples of “legal mail” and “privileged mail,” and ensure that such mail is not interrupted or delayed. The proposed rules do not specify how this mail will be protected to ensure privacy of sensitive material for inmates seeking appeal.

Please do not implement this policy.

Sincerely,
Concerned citizen,

Christopher Brozdowski, PhD

Comment:
Wendy Z Robb (written)
While I understand that there are concerns about convicted criminals using mail to support or direct criminal activities on the outside, it is important to remember that incarcerated people are still people, worthy of some dignity - especially with the notable amount of cases when someone turns out to have been convicted of a crime they did not commit.
Sure, read their mail to make sure that nothing criminal is happening. But don't deny a father a chance to hold the drawing his child made for his birthday, or the actual letter a son painstakingly wrote to his incarcerated mother.
This accomplishes absolutely nothing, is a waste of money, and yet another degradation of a prisoner's basic human dignity

--
Wendy Z Robb
Chicago, IL

Comment:
Kathleen Murphy Toms (Written)
I am writing to oppose mail scanning in Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC). This is a practice that causes active harm to inmates, separates them even more from external support systems, and further dehumanizes people. Scanning mail erases a form of connection between incarcerated people and their loved ones, doesn't make prisons safer and undermines rehabilitation. Holding a piece of mail that their loved ones created for them with their own hands is meaningful and special and digitizing this erases this experience, not to mention the privacy concerns.

Kathleen Murphy Toms

Comment:
Marilu Zavala (written)
Today I am writing to you in regard to mail scanning. As a family member of someone who is incarcerated 5 hours away my family relies on sending family pictures to our loved one. We can't make the trip every week or even every month so sending picture updates is the only form of communication besides a phone call through tablets that do not even have a reliable connection. Scanning these pictures we send that we paid for to be produced should not be scanned and produced into a less quality format to our family member. Scanning incoming mail is proven not to deter contraband delivery as maybe you should put money into resources to hire better correctional officers. Studies have shown that contraband is still getting through and actually through your officers you hired. Destroying originals is also a blatant disrespect to all families who send in letters that are not technology savvy. We pay with our hard earned money to have these pictures developed to send and for our loved one to receive in its original form, not a digital lesser quality option. Our information is being scanned also which I like many others do

not consent to. We understand that mail is to be monitored and reviewed. The money used to pay for this scanning system should be repurposed to train your correctional officers better so they are able to spot contraband because it seems they are part of the problem. What I see happening in the near future is lawsuits that could have been avoided. How many times has technology been used to steal and misuse information? No system is perfect. I ask that you take this issue seriously and consider other ways to fight against contraband being let through. Shouldn't mail be reviewed by different channels before proceeding to an inmate? Who is not doing their due diligence? At the end of summer no notice was given to anyone that this change would occur. IT was brought to our attention by our loved one who is incarcerated. Your site specifically says " All incoming and outgoing correspondence (excluding privileged mail) is opened and inspected for contraband." , so why is this new rule implemented now?
Thank you for taking the time to read this. Have a blessed day.

Marilu Zavala

Comment:
Ben Archer (written)
Do not do this. Let people hold letters if anyone sends them.

Comment:
Patricia Liggins (written)
Hello Rule Making Members,
Good evening! Please stop the scanning process in IDOC facilities. Mail scanning simply is not best for those incarcerated because there is nothing like the real thing. During the scanning process images become faded and hard to see. Thus, taking away from the original quality. Plus, some people like to have items such as love letters, bank statements, etc. in hand that they can feel. Besides, mail scanning authorizes unnecessary surveillance and violates privacy. Let's end mail scanning in IDOC facilities ASAP.

With Respect,

Patricia Liggins

Comment:
Matt Janicki (written)
Good evening DOC Rules Committee,

I'm writing this evening to express my opposition to the mail scanning initiative for prisons. Recidivism is known to increase if a prisoner cannot have access to physical mail. This initiative sounds like it will put a barrier between a prisoner and their family, friends, it anyone trying to write to them. I see they'll have access to a kiosk to then print the letter. This will undoubtedly be a cost passed onto the prisoner.

We need true reform in order to prevent future crime. We can genuinely help these people get back on their feet but it will be impossible if they and their families are burdened with additional frivolous costs.

If AFSCME is worried about their safety while examining incoming mail, then invest in a drug avoiding k-9 unit to detect drugs.

Best regards,

Matt Janicki
Woodlawn
Chicago

Comment:
Chloe Reis (written)
I am a resident of Illinois and I do not want IDOC to do mail scanning.

Comment:
Concerned Citizens (written) **186**

I am writing as a concerned citizen to **urge the Illinois Department of Corrections to reject the proposed permanent amendment** to 20 Ill. Adm. Code 525, specifically regarding scanning of physical mail. Physical mail includes books, magazines, religious materials, and letters from loved ones. At least 25 state prison systems require incoming physical mail to be digitized or photocopied, providing us with plenty of data that shows banning paper mail is counterproductive to all stakeholders. Furthermore, such policies may have a chilling effect on the amount of mail of all kinds coming into prisons.
The proposed permanent amendment claims to be necessary in order to prevent contraband from entering prisons, and to ensure the safety of incarcerated people, correctional officers, and the public. **Facts do not support that implementing mail scanning will achieve these goals. Mail scanning does not prevent the inflow of contraband.** In states like Missouri, New Mexico, and Pennsylvania, mail scanning has increased rates of drug overdose or positive drug tests in prisons. In New Mexico, positive drug tests doubled after mail scanning was implemented, and in Pennsylvania, positive drug tests nearly tripled after the implementation of a similar policy. In Missouri, drug overdoses in prisons increased after mail scanning was put into effect. These facts prove that mail scanning does not meaningfully reduce the flow of

contraband into prisons.
Mail scanning does not protect correctional officers. In recent years, there has been increased concern that correctional officers may suffer accidental drug overdoses when handling mail. These concerns are not grounded in science. Toxicology experts have found that brief skin contact with or inhalation of potentially contaminated mail is not enough to cause an overdose. Thus, the risks of accidental exposure are slight or potentially nonexistent.
Mail scanning harms incarcerated people's connections to the outside world and hampers rehabilitation. Mail remains one of the most common, most cost effective, and most meaningful forms of communication for incarcerated people and their families. Studies have suggested that incarcerated people who receive letters from loved ones while in prison have lower rates of recidivism and substance use upon reentry. Moreover, being able to hold a letter and read and re-read messages from family members and friends provides hope for incarcerated people, and a reason to try harder to return to a conventional, non-offending life. Other than connections with loved ones, we are also concerned about the limitation the policy may impose upon accessing post-conviction petition process, health records, and other essential documents. Finally, the rulemaking must provide clear definitions and examples of "legal mail" and "privileged mail," and ensure that such mail is not interrupted or delayed. The proposed rules are silent as to how this mail will be protected to ensure privacy of sensitive material.
Please do not implement this policy, which is harmful not just to people in prison, but correctional officers and the broader community.

Comment:
Sharone R. Mitchell, Jr., Cook County Public Defender (written)

Dear Warden Austin:
Please see attached a letter in opposition to the proposed amendments to Rights and Privileges (20 IAC 525; 49 Ill Reg 12657) on behalf of the Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender.
Regards,
Rory

Rory T. McHale
Director of Legislative and External Affairs
Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender
(773) 818-2887
Rory.McHale@cookcountyil.gov

Attachment:

Glen Austin, Warden
Illinois Department of Corrections
1021 North Grand Avenue East
Springfield, IL 62702
Sent via email to: DOC.ProposedRulemaking@illinois.gov

November 24, 2025

Re: Opposition to Proposed Amendments to Rights and Privileges (20 IAC 525; 49 Ill Reg 12657)

Dear Warden Austin:

As a valued and respected partner in efforts to make the criminal legal system more equitable, fair, and safe, I write to you to express our strong opposition to the adoption of the Proposed Amendments to Rights and Privileges under 20 IAC 525 in 49 Ill Reg 12657.

Each year, Cook County residents account for roughly 40% of the people admitted to the Illinois Department of Corrections ("Department"). The Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender represents the vast majority of people accused of felonies in Cook County. Our office thus shares the Department's vested interest in the well-being and future success of the people that work and live in Department facilities. It is with our shared goals of mutual safety and successful restoration in mind that we are compelled to speak out against these Proposed Amendments that would eliminate the use of physical mail for incarcerated people and replace it with scanned and digital alternatives.

Despite any well-intentioned motivations behind the proposal, eliminating the dissemination of physical mail will cause great psychological harm to incarcerated people. While the Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender retains concerns about the novel and untested procedures to exempt legal mail from the new scanning procedures, our opposition to the Proposed Amendments encompasses a broader concern about proposal's negative effect on the health and well-being of our current and former clients that are incarcerated. The primary communication between our Office and individuals who are incarcerated in the Department's facilities comes in the form of privileged and legal mail. Under the Proposed Amendments, such mail would be exempt from the scanning procedures and instead subject to a new multi-factor authentication (MFA) processing. The Proposed Amendment emphasizes that "privileged mail shall not be copied, scanned, imaged, or otherwise reproduced in any form, and Department staff will not open envelopes when using a multi-factor authentication system to confirm the identity of persons mailing privileged mail to a facility."

Yet this new practice for legal mail processing comes without the benefit of verifiable and evidence-based justification for a change to how we have safely and successfully communicated with our clients for many years. Specifically, through Public Act 104-0412, the Department has recently become subject to a new statutory requirement to increase transparency on contraband in its facilities, including how it is being transmitted. No public reports have yet been published pursuant to this mandate, yet this policy change is being pushed through. In light of this pending effort to gather objective information about the problem the proposed rule seeks to address, we urge the Department to pause all policy changes until this insight is available.

In addition, the proposed MFA process for legal and privileged mail places a new and costly burden on advocates serving the individuals incarcerated in IDOC facilities. For example, advocates conducting class action or other large scale legal mailing practices would be required to get a new "control number" for each piece of mail submitted through IDOC. For other smaller

or less resourced legal mail providers, including individual attorneys or court staff from Illinois's 102 counties, any failure to comply with these procedures will result in individual's legal mail being scanned, exposed, and reviewed by IDOC staff at their facility. Finally, the MFA process does not adequately protect the sizable number of individuals representing themselves *pro se*, whose legal mailings and confidential pleadings will be scanned. Attempts to resolve or cure these defects will impose furthers costs in time and resources, all of which could delay often time-sensitive communications.

Even if legal and privileged mail were to be fully exempted from the scanning procedures, the Proposed Amendment will cause harm and fail to address the dangers faced by individuals that live and work in the Department's facilities. We recognize the immense risk drugs and other illicit substances have caused, including leading to overdoses and even deaths in Department facilities. Ultimately, all Illinoisans want the same thing: for incarcerated people to serve their time and return to our communities in the most physically, emotionally, and mentally healthy states possible. As you know, any process of community restoration and successful reconnection requires relationship building that can only happen through consistent communication. Physical mail often serves as the only meaningful form of communication between incarcerated people and their families, friends, and other loved ones who remain in the communities to where they will eventually return.

For our clients who are often located far away from their families and in more rural facilities where visits may not be as frequent, receiving a physical letter from home offers a sense of profound connection. That supportive bond is understood physically and emotionally when someone holds the same envelope and the same letter or card that their child or their parent held mere days before. Removing incarcerated people's ability to connect with their loved ones through physical mail stunts their rehabilitation process, damages family relationships in ways that can have a generational impact and cumulatively harms the communities suffering most from high rates of incarceration.

Moreover, as we have previously expressed, publicized experiences in other jurisdictions have demonstrated that restricting physical mail or replacing it with digital "mail" has done little to improve safety or meaningfully address contraband concerns in secure facilities. Despite the recent increased use of mail scanning in jails and prisons across the country, there is no evidence that the practice has reduced the flow of illegal substances or items into these facilities. In fact, some states that have implemented the practice have instead seen an *increase* in drug use and overdoses inside. We implore the Department to reconsider the adoption of a practice that would sever the enduring ties between individuals and the communities to which they will return while failing to squarely address the dangers it purports to mitigate. The Department and our community of stakeholders can do better than an imprecise and overbroad solution to this serious problem.

We understand that this decision carried enormous weight for all involved, and I welcome any opportunity to affirm our strong opposition to this Proposed Amendment. Please feel free to contact my policy staff at (312) 603-0619 if you have any questions about our position. Thank you again for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Sharone R. Mitchell, Jr.
Cook County Public Defender

Comment:

Kevin Kelly, Catholic Lawyers Guild of Chicago, President (written)
To whom it may concern,

Please see the attached letter from the Catholic Lawyers Guild of Chicago in opposition to the proposed permanent rules on mail scanning in Illinois prisons. Please confirm receipt of this letter and registry of our formal opposition to the proposed rules.

Sincerely,

Pamela Rubeo
Immediate Past President of the Catholic Lawyers Guild, on behalf of current President Kevin Kelley (signor of letter)

Attachment:

Kevin Kelley, *President*
P.O. Box 10475 Chicago, IL 60610-0475
admin@clgchicago.org clgchicago.org

November 20, 2025
Glen Austin, IDOC
1021 North Grand Ave. East
Springfield, IL 62702
doc.proposedrulemaking@illinois.gov

RE: Opposition to Proposed Permanent Rules on Mail Scanning/Digitization

As President of the Catholic Lawyers Guild of Chicago, I am writing to formally express the DearGuild's strong opposition to the proposed permanent rules that would replace physical mail with scanned, digital copies for individuals incarcerated in Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) facilities.

While we understand that ensuring safety and security within correctional facilities is a vital goal, we oppose this fundamentally flawed policy for several reasons:

Undermines Human Dignity and Spiritual Well-Being:
The Catholic Lawyers Guild of Chicago opposes mail scanning for incarcerated individuals because it undermines the human dignity and spiritual well-being of those in custody.

Physical letters--especially cards from children, handwritten prayers, or personal notes-carry emotional, pastoral, and sacramental value that cannot be replicated through digital scans. Mail scanning not only deprives incarcerated individuals of meaningful human connection, but also denies their families and loved ones the opportunity to express care, maintain bonds, and participate in genuine relational connection. The Guild believes that preserving original correspondence is essential to protecting human dignity and fostering hope through authentic personal and spiritual communication.

Undermines Rehabilitation and Family Connection:
Physical letters, photographs, and children's drawings are precious, tangible links to loved ones and outside support systems. This connection is crucial for maintaining morale, promoting rehabilitation, and improving post-release outcomes. Consistent, meaningful contact with supportive people has been shown to reduce recidivism and help incarcerated individuals reintegrate successfully into their communities. When people in custody can maintain real emotional bonds, they are more likely to stay motivated, engage in positive programs, and build the stability they need for life after release.

Lack of Supporting Evidence:
The IDOC has not provided sufficient empirical data to support the claim that physical mail is a major source of contraband entering prisons. Toxicology experts have also routinely debunked claims that significant drug exposure can occur from simply handling drug-soaked papers. Implementing a permanent, costly policy without clear evidence of its effectiveness is an inefficient and ineffective.

Ineffective and Incomplete System:
Digital replications are frequently low quality, incomplete, or cut off, which can cause significant frustration and pain. Furthermore, the digital systems often have retention limits and are prone to technical failures, meaning important messages or memories can be permanently lost.

In sum, the Catholic Lawyers Guild of Chicago urges the IDOC to reject this proposed rule that compounds the isolation of incarcerated people and disconnects them from their family members and loved ones. We respectfully request that you instead engage in meaningful dialogue with all stakeholders, including families, advocates like Restore Justice Foundation and the ACLU of Illinois, and currently/formerly incarcerated individuals, to find targeted solutions that truly enhance safety without compromising human dignity and spiritual well-being.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these critical concerns.

Sincerely,

Kevin P Kelley
President, Catholic Lawyers Guild

Comment:
Marie Snyder (written)

Hello,
Reaching out as a former educator in an alternative high school and a longtime community organizer to let you know that I am **fundamentally against mail scanning** in our jails and prisons. Mail scanning is dehumanizing, expensive, and violates privacy for those who are incarcerated and their families.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns

Marie Snyder
Chicago, IL

Comment:
Catherine Norcott (written)

As a citizen of Illinois, I am writing to oppose a continuation or permanent application of the emergency rule, in place since September 2025, replacing physical mail with scanned or digitized mail.

My primary concern is that the rule needlessly severs the community connections of incarcerated individuals from their families and loved ones. Letters, cards, photos, books, and drawings are lifelines that preserve family bonds during their incarceration. Staying connected to loved ones provides hope and encouragement for rehabilitation. Digital replications are often low quality and incomplete, and lack the sense of personal connection offered by physical mail. Research and lived experience both demonstrate that family connections support rehabilitation, reduce problems within facilities, and increase the likelihood of success after release.

Not only does the rule limit access to all types of mail initially, it also restricts the ability of prisoners to the physical items once they have been tested and requires that the items be destroyed. Mailed items may include photos of loved ones, children's drawings and other personal items that are not replaceable. The rule also limits access to mailed reading materials which are lifelines, as well as sources of learning and community connection between incarcerated individuals and their support networks.

Evidence from other states where similar policies have been enacted show that they do not have a meaningful impact on issues of drug use/access which have been used to justify mail bans. Studies of similar policies have shown that mail scanning systems did not significantly limit drug access and pose significant costs to taxpayers, incarcerated individuals, and their

families. In Pennsylvania the percentage of prisoners testing positive for drugs in 2018 around the time of the rule change was 1.0%. Four years later, in 2022, that percentage had increased to 2.7% while mail scanning continued to be in place.
In Wisconsin, implementation of a mail scanning program cost over 1 million dollars annually for the Department of Corrections.

This policy has been shown to be costly and ineffectual towards the goal of restricting access to drugs inside correctional facilities. The only goal it achieves is to limit opportunities for positive connection, support, and access to information for incarcerated individuals - a goal that works against the need to provide healing and alternative pathways for them.

I urge you not to extend this rule and to resume full access to physical mail and printed items like books within the Illinois Dept. of Corrections system.

Sincerely,

Catherine Norcott

Comment:
Maidely Davila (written)

My name is Maidely Davila and I am a undergraduate student studying at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. I am also a volunteer with Urbana-Champaign Books to Prisoners, a non-profit organization that sends books to prisoners through mail free of charge.

I am familiar with the joy that books and letters can bring incarcerated individuals during their time in prison. It is life-changing; they encourage these individuals to better themselves and re-enter society prepared to take on the world. This is why I implore you reconsider the proposal to make permanent changes to Rule 20 Ill. Adm. Code 525. This would prevent incarcerated individuals from receiving physical mail from their loved ones, limiting an important form of contact between them. Nothing can compare to holding the physical evidence of support from loved ones in your hands. It would be cruel to deny prisoners this basic human right.

It should be noted that receiving physical mail has shown to have great benefits for those experiencing mental health issues. Studies have shown them to be crucial in preventing suicide-related deaths. Little research, however, exists to suggest limiting physical mail hinders drug-related deaths in prisons. There is no logical reason to ban physical mail in state prisons.

Please reject the permanent changes to Rule 20 Ill. Adm. Code 525. It is not what Illinois stands for, nor what its people believe in.

Best,
Maidely
--

Maidely Davila
she/her/hers
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign | Class of 2026

Comment:
Janelle Nystrom (written)

I previously wrote with my experience as a nursing student, but I also wanted to testify about some of the public health implications of the prison mail scanning system. Before attending nursing school, I worked as an industrial hygienist for the California Department of Public Health, focusing on occupational health and safety. There are several big public health contradictions within this prison mail policy that I'd like to point out:

- Workers in Illinois prisons have claimed that their exposure to contaminants in the mail is a reason to prevent physical mail, with scanning as an alternative.
    - This is contradictory because scanning mail would likely increase the contact that prison staff have with supposedly contaminated objects, as letters would require repeated handling during opening, positioning, and scanning of papers. Unless corrections staff are required to perform this work in clean rooms with personal protective equipment, scanning does not decrease the risk of contact with alleged contaminants.
    - Additionally, any elaborate setup to test papers and prevent contamination would be costly and without evidence that it would solve the risk of exposure to workers nor the problem of drugs in prisons.
- Some arguments suggest that drug overdoses are caused by contaminants that can be sprayed on paper, with "K2" as an example contaminant that is sprayed.
    - While a person can have symptoms from taking too much K2, these are very different from the respiratory depression and death that occur with opioid overdose. Allegations about contamination of mail and overdose should be directly linked and not speculated.
- Scanning mail has not been shown to be effective in preventing overdoses in Pennsylvania, Missouri, or really, anywhere. Is this intervention tested? Without evidence, the government appears to be spending money on something that merely sounds good, or worse, an idea that's been sold to lawmakers at the expense of taxpayers.
- This quote from Danielle Sered illustrates causes at the intersection of public health issues within the carceral system:
    - "The core drivers of violence are shame, isolation, exposure to violence, and an inability to meet one's economic needs. The four core features of prison are

shame, isolation, exposure to violence, and an inability to meet one's economic needs. We've baked into our central response to violence exactly the things that generate it."
- Physical mail enables people to counteract the isolation they face in prison.
- Physical mail also allows people inside and outside corrections to meet their communication needs economically and to retain their letters throughout their or their loved one's time in prison.
- Tablet systems exploit an incarcerated person's need to connect with others by charging fees for connection and services. It also exploits personal privacy for incarcerated individuals and their families.
- Breakdown of communication threatens communities and contributes to crime and recidivism.

Please lift the ban on physical mail and ensure that incarcerated people have the right to receive physical mail. It is essential to our community's success.

Janelle Nystrom

--
Janelle Nystrom, MPH (she/her)
GE-AGMS Nursing Student, '26
College of Nursing
Graduate Research Assistant
School of Public Health, GLC for Farmworker Health and Wellbeing
University of Illinois, Chicago

Comment:
Devin Hanley (written)

To whom it may concern,

I urge you not to make mail scanning permanent. The ramifications of taking away this seemingly small but crucial lifeline of connection from incarcerated individuals only harms them. To cite the Prison Policy Initiative:

"Although it's becoming more common, mail scanning is not a reasonable or effective response to drug contraband in prison. There is no evidence that physical mail is a main avenue for drugs entering prisons; to the contrary, there is ample evidence that drugs and other contraband are often smuggled into facilities by staff. Notably, mail scanning has not decreased overdoses in states that have implemented it; for example:

30 people died from drugs the year after mail scanning was implemented in Missouri prisons. Meanwhile, overdoses have not only continued but they have increased.

Positive tests for drugs in Pennsylvania's prisons nearly tripled in the five years following the move to mail scanning."

Please do not implement this punitive and cruel measure.

With concern,

Devin Hanley
Chicago, IL

Comment:
Alison Flaum, Stephanie Kollman, Shobha Mahadev (written)

Tips for Mail Scanning Written Comments
Joint Committee on Administrative Rule
Via Electronic Mail: jcar@ilga.gov

Glen Austin
Illinois Department of Corrections
1021 North Grand Ave. East
Springfield, IL 62702
Via Electronic Mail: DOC.ProposedRulemaking@illinois.gov

Public Comment on Proposed Rules Regarding Mail, Privileged Communications, and Receipt of Publications for People in Illinois State Prisons

We submit this comment in strong opposition to the Illinois Department of Corrections' proposed amendments relating to the scanning of mail, the handling of privileged communications, and restrictions on the receipt of publications. As attorneys who have spent more than sixty collective years working with and advocating for incarcerated people in Illinois, we embrace technologies that support connection between incarcerated people and their loved ones and legal team. Unfortunately, the proposed amendments will do the opposite. Over many decades, we have personally seen how essential mail, privacy, and access to meaningful communication are to incarcerated people – and to their rehabilitation, emotional stability, family connection, and access to the courts. The proposed rules threaten all of these unquestionably vital fundamentals – without evidence that the new rules will meaningfully reduce contraband or increase safety.

While controlling contraband is also a vital concern, IDOC has provided almost no data demonstrating that personal mail is a significant vector for contraband, nor any evidence that mail scanning reduces the flow of drugs into incarcerated settings. On the contrary, at a December 17, 2024, Advisory Board meeting, IDOC acknowledged that drug-soaked paper enters prisons in multiple ways beyond mail, yet these alternative sources – including staff,

vendors and contractors – are not addressed in the proposed amendments. Without transparent, facility-level data showing how drugs are entering prisons, the benefits of the proposed rule changes are speculative at best and, at worst, a distraction from the real sources of harm. Public Act 104-0412, recently signed into law, is specifically designed to remedy this deficit by mandating the collection and publication of prison contraband data. IDOC has not yet implemented this law. Implementing PA 104-0412 immediately would allow the public and policymakers to understand the scope and source of the problem before imposing broad, rights-restricting measures.

The lack of data and certainty around the sources of contraband contrasts sharply with the significant and certain burdens that the proposed amendments will impose on incarcerated people, their families, and their legal representatives. Indeed, evidence from the implementation of mail scanning systems in Pennsylvania and Missouri suggests it does not reduce the presence or prevalence of contraband. What such systems *do* reliably result in is degradation of the quality of communication, erosion of trust between incarcerated people and the institutions responsible for their care, and imposition new financial and administrative costs on families and correctional systems alike.

In addition, the human consequences of removing access to original mail cannot be overstated. Physical mail is a rare and profoundly meaningful connection to families, loved ones and normal life. Turning personal letters, drawings, cards, and photographs into low-quality scans delivered through tablets strips away emotional value and further isolates people already living in an environment of deprivation. Furthermore, research and lived experience demonstrate that family connection is central to rehabilitation and reentry success. A policy that diminishes those connections without clear evidence of benefit is unjustifiable.

The proposed rules also create serious risks to the confidentiality of legal and privileged mail. Scanning, storing, and digitally tracking communications with attorneys, courts, and government actors threatens the privacy essential to attorney-client relationships and may considerably chill the reporting of abuse, and, accordingly, the protection of the rights of incarcerated people. The rules do not adequately define “legal mail,” do not guarantee that court documents will be treated as privileged even with control numbers or MFA processes, and do not set limits on data retention, access, or use. We are also concerned that the process of generating control numbers for every piece of legal correspondence will inevitably lead to slow-downs in the processing of legal mail, which is very often time sensitive. The creation of digital records accessible to staff or vendors also raises grave concerns about data privacy, misuse, and the potential for law enforcement access without judicial oversight.

Additionally, the proposals regarding publications and educational materials are unclear and unnecessarily restrictive. People in custody must be able to receive original, physical photographs from third-party services; newsletters or mailings sent through professional mail houses; and books and publications ordered by family or friends. Ambiguity around what constitutes “damaged or altered” publications opens the door for inconsistent and arbitrary denials. Access to educational correspondence coursework, in particular, must be expressly

protected.

From a practical standpoint, the proposed rule also introduces numerous logistical and administrative challenges: poor-quality scans; incomplete or illegible pages; unclear processes for obtaining corrected copies; burdens on mailroom staff tasked with coding, scanning, filing, and storing originals; and the massive expense of third-party scanning services. A full cost analysis, including the likelihood of higher communication costs for families, new vendor charges, and potential million-dollar outsourcing contracts must be undertaken before any rules are changed.

It is also concerning that IDOC has not paired this mail-scanning proposal with any plan to address the overwhelming unmet need for substance use disorder treatment inside facilities. People are frequently court-ordered to complete treatment while incarcerated, yet meaningful programming remains unavailable to many. A policy that restricts communication for all, while offering no treatment to those who need it, is neither humane nor effective.

The AFSCME memorandum of understanding, which reportedly committed IDOC to implementing mail scanning before the public rulemaking process began, raises further concern that this policy is being driven not by evidence or safety needs, but by internal administrative pressures. Major shifts in communication rights should not be the product of pre-negotiated agreements that precede public input. Incarcerated people themselves will bear the brunt of these changes, and their voices must be considered. Their lived experience, perspective, and feedback are indispensable to any policy that claims to affect safety.

In sum, the proposed rules are premature, unsupported by evidence, and harmful to the well-being, rights, and rehabilitation of incarcerated people, as well as the safety and functioning of correctional facilities. We respectfully request that IDOC withdraw or substantially revise these amendments and commit to a transparent, data-driven, collaborative process before implementing changes of this magnitude. Instead, IDOC should:

1. **Implement PA 104-0412 immediately** and publicly release contraband data before taking further action.
2. **Prioritize comprehensive substance-use treatment** rather than broad restrictions on communication.
3. **Ensure access to original physical mail**, including photographs, newsletters, and publications.

Thank you for considering these comments and for your attention to the serious consequences this proposal poses for the people who live and work in Illinois' prisons.

Sincerely,
Alison Flaum
Stephanie Kollmann
Shobha Mahadev

Comment:
Annie Singer (comment)
To whom it may concern:
I wanted to write to share my objection with the proposal to remove inmate access to physical mail and replace it with mail scanning. Mail is a lifeline for incarcerated people and their families. Connection with family is vital to the wellbeing of loved ones on the inside, and undermines their rehabilitation and long-term success. Preventing inmates from accessing mail does not enhance safety for anyone. I strongly urge you to allow inmates to access physical mail.

Sincerely
Annie Singer

IDOC Analysis

Recommendation
Comment:
Josh Goldstein, Equip for Equality, Staff Attorney

Dear Mr. Austin,
Please see the attachment for Equip for Equality's written comment on IDOC's proposed rulemaking on mail and publications. Thank you for your review and consideration.
Sincerely,
Josh

Josh Goldstein
Equip for Equality
Staff Attorney, Civil Rights Team
20 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 300
Chicago, Illinois 60602
p. 312-820-5934
Josh@equipforequality.org
Pronouns: he/him

Attachment:

Glen Austin, Illinois Department of Corrections
November 24, 2025
1301 Concordia Court
P.O. Box 19277
Springfield, IL 62794

Re: Comment on IDOC Permanent Rulemaking on Mail

Dear Mr. Austin,

On behalf of Equip for Equality ("EFE"), we write to express deep concern regarding the Illinois Department of Corrections' ("IDOC") rulemaking on mail, privileged communications, and publications. EFE is an independent non-profit that serves as the federally mandated Protection and Advocacy ("P&A") system for the State of Illinois. As such, EFE is charged with protecting and advocating for the rights of people with disabilities in Illinois, particularly those in public and private institutions, including Illinois prisons.

At Equip for Equality, we receive letters from and write to hundreds of incarcerated people with disabilities every year. Through the mail, we learn of rights violations and harms that people with disabilities are experiencing in prison. Through confidential legal mail, we provide incarcerated people with disabilities crucial legal information and advice on their legal rights. The proposed rule introduces new barriers to bulk mailing that would severely restrict disability rights organizations like EFE from sending information such as client and class member communications, Know-Your-Rights guides, educational publications, and other materials essential to fulfilling EFE's federal mandate as the Protection and Advocacy organization in the State of Illinois. See 42 U.S.C. § 10801 et seq., as well as our role in representing more than 12,000 class members regarding mental health treatment inside the prisons.

We join other advocates in opposing these rulemaking proposals, and we specifically wish to highlight the disproportionate and harmful impact they will have on incarcerated people with disabilities through its restricting of people in custody's communication and resource access. We hope that the public input IDOC receives on this rule will allow it to better address the needs of incarcerated people with disabilities with regard to mail access.

Of particular concern to EFE, this proposed rule has no plan for the needs of, and significant impact upon, incarcerated people with disabilities, who account for more than a third of the prison population. The ADA requires prisons to make reasonable modifications to avoid discrimination and to provide auxiliary aids and services necessary for equal access. By removing original mail, introducing inaccessible technology and erecting new procedural barriers to privileged communication, this proposed rule moves Illinois further from, not closer to, compliance with the ADA. As the proposed rule stands, it risks cutting incarcerated people with disabilities even further off from their communities, impairing their ability to communicate with legal representatives, and denying them equal access to outside programs and resources.

The examples of potential harms to people with disabilities, which have not been considered in this process, are significant. For blind and low vision individuals, scanned materials are often inaccessible by screen reading software, and the rule as it stands does not provide a plan for access to Braille or tactile communications that may be needed. Many people with mental

health conditions depend on original letters, photographs, and cards as grounding tools to manage anxiety, depression, or trauma; reducing these to temporary digital files or potentially low-quality photocopies strips them of their potential therapeutic value. Likewise, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities or traumatic brain injuries may be unable to navigate the multi-step technological processes required to retrieve scanned mail or privileged correspondence, leading to lost access of vital communication with family and legal counsel. The proposed multi-factor authentication system for legal mail creates further barriers by imposing complex procedures that may be unintelligible to those with cognitive impairments, directly impeding their constitutional and statutory right of access to courts and legal systems.

Moreover, the proposed rule's limitations on what types of publications and rehabilitative materials individuals in custody can be provided and how these materials are delivered will decrease individuals in custody's access to educational materials. People with disabilities are already underrepresented in prison programming, and they will be left with fewer options to access literacy tools, vocational content, and religious study materials in accessible formats. Given that individuals in custody will be dependent on functional and accessible technology, which to date has not existed in IDOC, for communication with their families, there is a need for advanced planning to address situations when there are Wi-Fi outages and technical issues with tablets.

These issues are too important to leave by the wayside. IDOC's proposed rule, if implemented without a plan to address these various accessibility concerns, completely runs up against its obligations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Thank you for your consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,
Equip for Equality

Comment:
Lizzie Lewandowski (written)

My name is Lizzie Lewandowski. I live in Chicago and I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed permanent mail scanning policies. I am trained as a social worker, and that professional training drives my fundamental opposition to mail scanning.

I deeply care about the well-being of people who are incarcerated and their loved ones on the outside. It is with their well-being in mind that I implore you to understand that mail scanning is a waste of time, money, and energy. **The way to address a drug problem is through accessible, comprehensive, appropriate, evidence-based substance use disorder treatment**. Not by punishing every person in the Illinois Department of Corrections by taking away a meaningful, tangible connection to life outside of prison. Not by rolling out a needlessly complicated process that the IDOC does not have the infrastructure, knowledge, or capacity to implement effectively.

Already, I have heard from people who are incarcerated and their loved ones that the emergency rule policies are being implemented inconsistently across institutions, leaving people without access to their mail. People's mail has been misdelivered to other tablets, compromising their privacy. But even if the rollout was perfect and seamless, I would be opposed to mail scanning fundamentally.

Mail scanning increases costs for loved ones. Even under the supposed "no-cost" contract through ICSolutions, the other costs families have to deal with went UP, even if mail scanning didn't *technically* have a cost associated with it. Further, many families don't want their mail scanned, so they shift to other, more expensive forms of communication after mail scanning is implemented.

Mail scanning also widens the net of surveillance on families just trying to stay in touch with their loved ones, with the private telecommunications companies holding on to their data and personal information and putting that information at greater risk of being compromised.

Mail scanning just doesn't work. It's not going to prevent drugs from getting into prison, because drugs are coming in on guards. There is no peer-reviewed evidence that mail scanning is an effective solution to improve facility safety. In fact, there is data from several other states where the drug problem in prisons got worse (across several different metrics) after implementing mail scanning.

Decades of academic research demonstrate with robust evidence that visits, mail, phone, and other forms of family contact have meaningful, positive impacts on people who are incarcerated. These benefits include better health, better behavior, and better outcomes after release, including being less likely to return to prison. A scanned card or letter (or a photocopy) just isn't the same. It's dehumanizing.

I urge you to spend your resources on where it matters: addressing the immense, unmet need for substance use disorder treatment and programming within your facilities.

Most people who are incarcerated will be coming home to our communities someday. Making it harder for them to maintain essential support systems (and making it nearly impossible for them to access any substance use treatment) does not make anyone safer, inside or outside of prison.

Please feel free to respond with any questions you may have. I am happy to provide clarification, or links to research and evidence for further study.

Regards,
Lizzie Lewandowski

Comment:
Julie Anderson, Restore Justice, Outreach Director

Greetings,

Thank you for reading my email, my name is Julie Anderson, I am the Outreach Director at Restore Justice. Today I am writing to you as a mother, and a friend to many incarcerated individuals.
I am pleading with you to halt mail scanning and to look into alternatives ways to decrease contraband in the DOC. I realize drug use is on the rise and that you need to keep your residences as well as your staff safe. Mail Scanning is not the answer, if only it were so simple, stop the mall, drug use is reduced or ended.

This is not the case, if anything drug use will continue to escalate. We know there are many ways drugs and contraband find their way inside facilities, there are always bad actors on both sides. Substance abuse programs should come first, why do people feel the need to self medicate?

Most of all the DOC is not equipped, trained or ready to implement mail scanning. The introduction of the tablets has been flawed, the new phone system is flawed, please do not rush into a knee jerk reaction to an ongoing problem. IDOC does not have the man power to implement mail scanning, mail prior to scanning was delayed -weeks if not months, met with excuses such as we are short staffed, the person who works in the mail room is on vacation, these are not new excuses but I have been hearing them as long ago as 10 years or more. The mail has always been delayed. I can remember times at Hill CC where I had mailed in books from a 3rd party (amazon) . I know they arrived and it took over 5 weeks for the incarcerated person to receive the book. This is not an unusual story but more just the way things are.

I have heard from loved ones in other states, who have mail scanning for years, (done by a 3rd party) the mail is delayed, it is illegible, there are restrictions on the number of pages, it's expensive. How will the DOC pay for this? Charging fees on the tablets is NOT an answer, that costs loved ones significant amounts of money, some of these people are society's most vulnerable, and must decide whether to send their loved one money or pay their electric bill.

Recently Pinckneyville had 6 overdoses, this occurred less than 2 weeks ago, and Pinckneyville CC has been scanning mail since August.

You have the power to create something better, and address drug use at the root of the problem, mail scanning is not the answer. I ask you to take the time necessary to make sure you are making decisions and rules that are in the best interest of everyone who works and resides inside your correctional facilities.

Thank you.

Julie Anderson
Outreach Director
773-263-7852
PO Box #101099,
Chicago, IL 60610
www.restorejustice.org

Comment:
Midwest Books to Prisoners (written)

To Whom It May Concern:

We are Midwest Books to Prisoners, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based out of Chicago, IL. Since 2004 we have been publishing and distributing books, magazines, newspapers, and other reading material to incarcerated individuals across the country and in Illinois DOC facilities in particular.

We are deeply alarmed by and opposed to IDOC's proposed rule changes implementing "mail scanning"—as well as the dishonesty and lack of transparent process in the rush to make these changes permanent. We are writing to share our organization's research and lived experiences regarding this unfortunate trend of prison censorship, urging JCAR and IDOC to ***REJECT*** this proposed rule change entirely. We are seeking direct responses by IDOC to our questions and concerns, outlined in bold below.

We hope that members of JCAR and IDOC can review our recent publication "Midwest Prison Censorship Update 2025: Exposing the IDOC Mail Scanning Scam", available at the link provided in the resource list below. While IDOC has shamefully ignored the concerns of those directly impacted by these mail policies, we are sharing survey results we've received from thousands of incarcerated individuals who have offered their firsthand perspectives on the negative impacts of these proposed policies.

Quite simply, physical mail provides invaluable rehabilitative, educational, recreational, religious, and emotional support. As Human Rights Watch notes, mail scanning "*violates basic rights and interferes with rehabilitation and successful reentry*". A physical connection and reminder that one exists in community and is loved – not cold, disembodied text on a screen that disappears in six months – is crucial for maintaining mental health and positive relationships, and ensuring success upon release. Instead of blaming the mail as a source of contraband and imposing ineffective, heavy-handed restrictions through privatized communication monopolies (that serve the interests of profit over people), we encourage you to address root causes—why and how contraband makes its way into IDOC facilities to begin with—and embrace holistic harm reduction and drug treatment strategies based on data, best practices, and basic human dignity.

While SB2201 (requiring IDOC to collect and publish data on incoming contraband) has not yet had the opportunity to help bring veracity to the public on this issue, you should be aware that IDOC has already been collecting much of this data. Through FOIA requests, we have received complete 2023 and 2024 "Drug Confiscations" and 2024 "Drug Exposures" databases. This data shows that IDOC, AFSCME, and a few Illinois legislators are deliberately misleading the public about contraband in the mail. According to IDOC's own data, the majority of drug confiscations have NOT come from the mail (contradicting what IDOC testified to during the September 16th JCAR meeting): only 30% of the total confiscations were found in the mail. These "confiscations" were based on inaccurate Sirchie Narc II "presumptive testing" of which the majority ended up testing negative through actual drug testing by the Illinois State Police, or was never even sent to the ISP for verification. Furthermore, the vast majority of all drug test confirmations were Synthetic Cannabinoids (84%) whereas fentanyl was only ever found in 5 occurrences (0.2%); this is significant because synthetic cannabinoids cannot produce deadly overdoses or incidental exposures in the same way that fentanyl can.

We want to hear a response from both IDOC and JCAR directly addressing the scientific impossibility of these supposed mailroom staff overdoses. Dozens of studies by toxicologists continuously demonstrate that fentanyl ***simply cannot cause*** incidental reactions and overdoses by simple handling of the drug– it cannot be imbibed through the skin or aerosolized in significant enough doses. Again – according to IDOC's own data, only 5 fentanyl confiscations occurred in 2 years. Importantly, in each of the "Drug Exposure" incidents reported by both grandstanding Republican politicians and IDOC's FOIA 2025 "Drug Exposure" database, *there was never any correlating drug confiscation that tested positive for drugs by the ISP!* There is no evidence that any of the dozens of guards purportedly hospitalized experienced any drug overdose from the mail, because it is in fact impossible. **We are asking that IDOC and JCAR listen to the science and unequivocally reject these dishonest and unsubstantiated claims.** Furthermore, the proposed mail scanning process as implemented does not even remediate this supposed threat because it is still the same Illinois DOC staff handling and processing incoming mail into the scanning technology, so they are just as "exposed" as they were previously.

Over the past year or so, we have seen an alarming increase in packages rejected by Illinois prison mailrooms for reasons such as "stains", "crinkles" or "yellowed pages". IDOC mailroom staff are free to inspect items for contraband – there is technology such as Ion Spectrometers for that – however, we want IDOC to address the fact that none of these books ever appeared in any of the "drug confiscation" data, they were simply rejected based on suspicions that IDOC never bothered to investigate. These "content neutral" restrictions allow mailroom guards to reject a package as "suspicious" based not on the verifiable presence of contraband but on personal whims and vibes. This is endlessly frustrating for incarcerated people who seek reading material and organizations like ours that rely on donated books from libraries, schools and individuals: consider the thousands of books denied and thousands of dollars in wasted postage for a rule essentially banning used books when no such rule actually exists. **We want an answer from IDOC addressing the deeply problematic pattern of**

frivolous rejections without any sort of proof-positive drug test confirmations or due process. We urge IDOC to instruct mailroom staff to hold all suspected publications pending drug test results instead of simply rejecting based on inaccurate and ambiguous assumptions which create potentialities for abuse and censorship.

We are also alarmed by IDOC's heavy reliance on "presumptive" testing technologies such as the Sirchie Narc II, notorious for false positives "less accurate than witchcraft or phrenology", as described by a class action lawsuit in Massachusetts. According to IDOC's data, the majority of the 1493 alleged drug confiscations in 2023/2024 either ended up testing negative for drugs by the ISP, or IDOC never bothered to send it in to the ISP at all. In other states such as California and New York these presumptive tests have resulted in thousands of people experiencing serious consequences such as loss of good time, placed in solitary confinement, and having communication privileges revoked. In the past year, two of our incarcerated correspondents in North Carolina and Indiana have been accused of receiving books that were "saturated in drugs": they were placed in the hole for months, transferred to other prisons, and threatened with additional charges: in both of these circumstances, after we made calls and sent letters, the charges were dropped, but will there be any accountability for the hardships these individuals endured? **What safeguards exist for people in Illinois prisons who have been unjustly punished due to inaccurate presumptive test results?**

IDOC needs to listen to educators, counselors and doctors who have been sounding the alarm. For example, if IDOC was truly serious about addressing overdoses, why not adopt harm reduction best practices, such as providing incarcerated people unrestricted access to Narcan without requiring any interaction with prison staff? Perpetuating propaganda about these impossible incidental mailroom overdoses "*presents serious obstacles to addressing the overdose crisis. It falsely transforms overdose emergencies, which require rapid response to prevent death, into perceived life-and-death situations for first responders as well*". Illinois could also be taking other proactive steps in addressing root causes of drug use – instead of taking away mail and books, what is Illinois doing to address the increased lockdowns, abysmal healthcare, and lack of educational programs, vocational training, and mental health services in its prisons?

Despite IDOC and ICSolution's representations, the tablets they are using to implement mail scanning are not progressive technologies, and they do not offer enhanced communication or educational opportunities. Instead, these are heavily monetized restrictive corporate sandboxes that reduce opportunities for self-education and community connection. We urge you to read and review both the "*Best Practices for E-Reader Tablets in Carceral Institutions*" (Coalition for Carceral Access to Literature and Learning) and the *2024 Standards for Library Services for the Incarcerated* (American Library Association). Illinois DOC's proposals disregard these educators' recommended best practices:

- tablets are treated as '*a replacement for*' physical mail, books and visits, instead of "*in addition to*"
- predatory 'pay to play' pricing models
- communication is treated as a privilege that can be revoked for disciplinary reasons or

group punishment
- text messages are limited to 140 characters for six cents, and have no features such as attachments, text formatting, or pictures (making it difficult for people on the outside to share articles with people inside)

Importantly, these tablets do not have basic word processing or image editing applications (but plenty of pay-per-minute games). Northwestern Prison Education Project graduate Anthony Ehlers describes these difficulties in his article "Stop Mail Scanning in Illinois": "*You cannot write letters, poems, songs, or books. You cannot write your school papers or your own legal motions. It doesn't even spellcheck. Nor can it hold pictures or drawings that small children do for their parents. You cannot create art on it.*" It is true that people behind bars need access to computer technology to train and prepare for re-entry, but replacing physical human contact with restrictive, alienating devices that drain family funds is not it.

Although many prisons and jails have implemented mail scanning, it is not an effective solution, nor is it inevitable. Though IDOC like other state prison systems has attempted to rush this through without any public input, there is widespread public opposition from inside and outside prison walls: we believe the issue should come before the legislature so voters can weigh in. We want to point you to an attempt this summer by the Dane County Wisconsin Sheriff to rush through a proposed mail scanning contract with Smart Communications: when their false representations began to unravel after hundreds of opposing public comments, the county ultimately voted against the proposal. We know Illinois representatives are not fools and probably also do not appreciate being lied to to advance a corporate contractor's security product at the expense of the communication rights of those already languishing in Illinois prisons.

Illinois has a unique opportunity to take a stand against this encroachment of our values; don't fall for this most heinous and predictably dishonest plot. While we understand you have a DOC to maintain, you don't have to sacrifice basic human rights for the illusion of security! Please review the resources we've pointed out; please listen to actual educators, doctors, and counselors, and read the censorship experiences of those directly impacted that we've shared. We await your responses to our questions and concerns.

Thank you,

Midwest Books to Prisoners

Resources:

"Midwest Prison Censorship Update 2025: Exposing the IDOC Mail Scanning Scam" https://midwestbookstoprisoners.org/midwest-prison-censorship-update-2025-exposing-the-idoc-mail-scanning-scam/

"Police reports of accidental fentanyl overdose in the field: Correcting a culture-bound syndrome that harms us all"
https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC8810663/

"Joint letter from Illinois community, legal, and policy organizations to the Illinois Department of Corrections"
https://www.restorejustice.org/joint-letter-from-illinois-community-legal-and-policy-organizations-to-the-illinois-department-of-corrections/

"US Jails and Prisons Sink to Banning Mail: Letters, Photos, Serve as Essential Lifeline for Incarcerated People" https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/11/15/us-jails-and-prisons-sink-banning-mail

Best Practices for E-reader Tablets in Carceral Institutions
https://pen.org/best-practices-for-e-reader-tablets-in-carceral-institutions/

ALA 2024 Edition: Standards for Library Services for the Incarcerated or Detained
https://alaeditions.org/standards/

Propaganda hoedown: How the Dane County Sheriff tried to sell the Smart Communications contract
https://tonemadison.com/articles/propaganda-hoedown-how-the-dane-county-sheriff-tried-to-sell-the-smart-communications-contract/

Comment:
Kelly Martin (written)

Sorry to see that you are punishing whole pocket the whole prison population for the bad actions of a minority. I know that physical mail, including books and puzzles, etc. are vital for people who are incarcerated. Please do not keep this rule.

Comment:
Caroline Penicaud (written)

To whom it may concerns,

I am writing to oppose the process of mail scanning in Illinois prisons. The evidence shows that scanning mail has no effect on contraband, nor does it make prisons safer for inmates or staff. What it does, however, is cut off essential connection between the inmates and their loved ones, making communication with the outside world more complicated and costly, and undermines rehabilitation efforts.

I believe it is a needless, cruel process, and I see no benefits to implementing it.

Thank you,

Caroline Penicaud

Comment:
Aime Polivka (written)

Dear JCAR,

I'm writing because I am concerned about the Illinois Department of Corrections' decision to ban physical mail and replace it with tablets. This decision is unnecessary and seems to be financially motivated since these tablets are programmed to profit off of our incarcerated citizens. Are prisons not supposed to have some role in rehabilitating people? We take away their ability to keep books or letters written to them by their family because of what seems to be completely fabricated stories of transdermal drug overdoses?

How transparently ridiculous and manipulative of IDOC, please do not fall for this. Prison guards are not in danger because of mail. This mail ban decision is clearly the result of corruption, mismanagement, and power tripping. Do not let them get away with this.

Thank you,

Aime Polivka
Evanston, IL

Comment:
Jessica Perez (written)

To whom it may concern:

I am a concerned citizen. Please stop the practice of mail scanning as it adversely impacts prisoners emotionally and adds undue financial burden on those inside and outside the prison system. Studies have also not found a proven link between mail scanning and reduced drug flow into prisons. Furthermore, in many cases it costs the taxpayers more money.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Best,

Jessica Perez

"The degree of civilization in a society can be judged by entering its prisons." - Fyodor Dostoevsky,

Comment:
Maria Mejia (written)

Dear IDOC,

I urge you to reject the cruel and unjust restrictions on incoming mail and books, including banning all mail pending a transition to controversial privatized mail digitization services. This is an inhumane censorship attempt that is an affront to education, rehabilitation, and community connection. To the IDOC and the IL general assembly: **do not ban people from accessing physical letters and books through the mail**, do not concede to the easily disproved right-wing drug war.

There is no evidence of any drugs or contraband being found causing a medical emergency. The Hazardous Material team that responded to the incident at Shawnee Correctional Center prison found absolutely no evidence of drugs, nor any illicit substance on the clothes of the officers.

Nowhere in the State of Illinois has there been an incident of a corrections worker being made sick or dying of any drug soaked paper. Even holding, or touching the deadly drug Fentanyl will not result in overdosing or being made sick. Touching or holding the drug does not harm you. It is a narrative that AFSCME keeps pushing, but it simply isn't true.

There is no evidence that suspending the delivery of physical mail to people who are incarcerated will improve institutional safety. In fact, other states that implemented mail scanning to stop the alleged problem of drugs coming into prisons through the mail saw drug use and overdoses increase.

Illinois already contracts with Global Tel-Link to provide tablets for ebooks, texting and video visits, which are used not as a means to provide the unlimited wealth of knowledge available to everyone else in the world, but are instead heavily restricted with no internet access. Prisoners are robbed of the constitutional right to receive physical books and mail and are instead nickel-and-dimed on unaffordable tablets with extremely limited selections (for example, Illinois only has copyright-free texts for titles more than eighty years old).

The tablet's "texting" features have no formatting options or pictures, and they are often unavailable because of lockdowns, equipment failures, or for group punishment. If someone transfers to another prison or county jail, all their previous communications are lost forever. This tech is marketed to prison administrators as progressive technology-forward secure

alternatives so that they can then eliminate physical visits, physical mail, and physical libraries, against prisoners' constitutional rights, against American Library Association standards, against the UN Mandela Rules standard minimum conditions of confinement, and against general rehabilitative goals and common human decency.

Books and mail are life-changing for people behind bars—and book bans are destructive to civil rights and collective humanity. A paper ban would further limit artistic expression and further fracture life saving relationships.

As someone who has loved ones inside IDOC, a professor, and a concerned citizen, again urge you to allow incarcerated individuals to retain their right to access physical mail and paper.

Best,

Maria Mejia, PhD
Assistant Professor of Philosophy
Elon University

Comment:
Hannah Hemperly (written)

My name is Hannah and I live in Chicago, IL. I have friends who are incarcerated who I exchange letters with. This has something that has brought a mutual joy for us in times of hardship and in a time we are already so disconnected.

I oppose the implementation of mail scanning. I believe it further reduces and diminishes genuine personal and physical interaction and contact and serves as yet another method of harming people and isolating people the IDOC claims to want to rehabilitate.

Mail scanning will take away from incarcerated people the closeness with their family & friends.
Pictures, cards and letters are what keeps up people's spirits, and help them feel part of family & friends.

I want to formally express my opposition to this policy.

Your constituent,

Hannah Hemperly

Chicago Public Schools educator
Chicago, IL 60622

Comment:
Allison Hartje (written)

This policy change is bunk. Physical mail keeps people connected to their loved ones and a world they have been disconnected from. Taking away physical mail will directly correlate to recidivism rates. Though, I do believe this policy and those like it are meant to do just that, keep those incarcerated, incarcerated.

Please consider that these incarcerated folks are human beings and deserve to be treated as such.

- Allison Hartje, Chicago

Comment:
Miranda Corbett (written)

I'm writing today to voice my opposition to mail scanning in IDOC.

I believe mail is an important connection between those who are incarcerated and their loved ones on the outside. Scanned and digital alternatives are not a substitute for physical mail and doesn't make facilities safer.

I volunteer at Chicago Books to Women in Prison. We send books to incarcerated women based on letters they write us that include what types of books they're interested in reading. In addition to books we send other reading material like dictionaries, information on careers, and crafting guides such as "How to Crochet." I believe this all has a positive impact on mental health and reentry success. I'm a reader and book lover myself, and I know the positive impact reading has. Everyone has the right to read. A mail ban would prevent organizations like CBWP from providing books to people who are incarcerated, which would lead to worse outcomes. I strongly oppose mail scanning in IDOC.

Miranda Corbett
Algonquin, IL

Comment:
Brianna Tong (written)

Hello,

My name is Brianna Tong. I'm an Illinois resident and I strongly oppose removing access to physical mail for people incarcerated in Illinois prisons. This is just another way to make prisons inhumane and make prisoners feel like they have no rights and no connections to

outside. I am also a member of AFSCME Council 31, Local 1215, and speaking only on my own behalf, would like to say that I do not support the move to scanned mail only.

Sincerely,
Brianna Tong

Comment:
Bridget King (written)

IDOC

Please limit or stop using this scanning policy.

My son is trying to complete a mail correspondence course. When his materials will arrive, he won't be able to write on and turn them in. Scanning can delay delivery times which also might affect his class and due dates.

My son had a tablet that took months to repair. What did he have from us in this time? Photos? Letters to reread for support?

The disposition of scans encroach on his privacy AND completely invades ours, his family. Letters are part of conversations and conversations have 2 participants: in this case, the inmate and the family member; family members who are not guilty of anything, not serving time and yet we are sentenced to many random inconveniences, much sadness and plenty of indignity, now add this.

Also, I have questions that need answers: What is the disposition of the scans in the 'system'. Stored for how long? Can they be fed to AI? I don't want my personal life and musings spread across the internet; again, I am not guilty of anything.

The scanning further remotes us as old people who may not see our son on the outside ever again. And I think of young fathers who will not be able to touch their children's first drawing or marvel at their handwritten stories . ..not the same with a scan.

Lastly, I wonder how much contraband was even coming in by mail? This expense of scanners seems to have no baseline for how much contaminated mail was incoming to facilities. No baseline? How can you measure the success or even determine there was a need in the first place? Not even a veteran organization like the Marshall Project, which acknowledges that mail handling can have risks, could find compelling data supporting further chipping away at family intimacy.

Thank you for considering my plea to dial back this terrible, poorly thought out strategy.

Bridget King

Comment:
Elisa Lee (written)

To Whom It May Concern:

I am submitting this comment on behalf of an individual named Bondi DeBooth who was recently incarcerated in IDOC, and is currently incarcerated elsewhere. The following is my paraphrasing of his comment opposing mail scanning in IDOC, that he shared with me over the phone under time constraints. Thank you for considering his comment.

When I was recently incarcerated in an Illinois prison, a child sent me a colored piece of artwork that had such an impact on me. I never received the original artwork, the one the child intended me to hold and touch and see. I received the paper saying, you can't have this mail, the correspondence has been denied, would you like it shipped out or destroyed? Then when I found out it was a drawing, that really impacted me, let alone that it was from the brilliant mind of a youngster. So of course I let them know, I don't want that destroyed, I want it sent back. My loved ones who sent it then sent me the Xerox copy, it was black and white. That is something that left an impression in my mind and heart ever since. To know that somebody even thinks of you is something that's powerful, let alone when a child draws a piece of artwork and takes the time to craft something like that, so beautiful, innocent and free, in all of its colorful ways. But the prisons have a monopoly on color. With their Xeroxing and digitizing, their attempts to remove the colorful things in life is typical of the neo-Orwellian dreariness they systemically struggle to fog their facilities with. I oppose IDOC's attempts to implement mail scanning and take physical mail away from incarcerated people.

Thank you,

Elisa Lee

Comment:
Alanisse Pineda (written)

Hello,

I'm writing to oppose mail scanning in Illinois Prisons because it cuts off essential connection between incarcerated people and their loved ones. It will not make facilities safer and is a policy that ultimately dehumanizes people in prison. As an Illinois constituent and person I'm absolutely opposed to this.

Alanisse

INDIVIDUALS IN CUSTODY, (3645)

1.How long will this be and knowing the holidays are coming up how will we know we have cards letters from loved ones for the holidays
(11/4/2025)

2.I believe this is an overreach and highly over bearing imposition on individuals. I have questions:
1) What happens to the mail after you receive it? You indicate it will be held for up to 6 months but then what?
2) Why is Legal mail being held from the recipient? All legal mail may not be privileged, i.e. from the court clerk, but, any order from the court is a legal document and it is from a judge. All legal mail received, if not privileged, should be opened inspected and then delivered. Not sent to the tablets.
3) Why is Dixon CC not keeping a log of legal / privileged mail anymore? Is this state wide? I don't see anything in the policy, change or otherwise, about this. This appears to be a means of covering up the destruction or mismanagement of mail by the mailroom. And yes that does happen.
4) Are hardcover books going to be allowed again now that they are coming from a publisher?
5) Is there not going to be free postage for mail anymore? Such as the 3 state envelopes we have now per month. I believe the fact that we are not allowed to send a certain amount of mail per month paid by the state violates a court settlement decree, but I don't have the info in front of me right now. Especially mail to the courts.
6) I have heard from our mailroom that they will not be making photocopies for requested materials. This is supposed to be done by an outside company. Is this true? This is a serious issue and raisea many more questions. Who is this outside org? How long will it take to receive the printed copies? And who is receiving my personal documents? What kind of people are going to be viewing them? And what kind of safeguards are there for scammers who are going to have acces possibly to sensitive information?
7) The mailroom has also indicated that this multi factor verification for attorneys will involve a private code number or some other selective system. But the Director shows none of this. How are we supposed to get attorneys inline with this?
I hope that this stops the influx of contraband into the prison, however, I believe this will have a similar effect just like prohibition did. As in many other states from what I have read is this becomes a horrible burden and overly work intensive system to prevent contraband, that ends up abusing the rights and priviliges of the individual and creates more hardship and anguish.
(11/4/2025)

3.Are the bible study classes threw the mail going to be skanded, and we wont be able to get are

hard copy thats sent to use? So we will be forced to pay for a nother copy to send back in wonce were done with the lesson?.
(11/4/2025)

4.Are we goona get our picture sent through free prints (11/4/2025)

5.How is it November 4 ,2025 and everything with this mail situation is documented from october and its just now being posted ???? (11/4/2025)

6.Are we going to be charges to get pictures printed off? (11/4/2025)

7. How long will it take to receive mail n how are the pictures from verified 3rd parties be handled will we still receive physical copies of personal photos (11/4/2025)

8. Having read the bulletin some questions regarding "definitions" and allowed material, hoping to get some clarfication. Under "sexually explicit material"- it states pictorial of actual/simulated acts is in regards to various magazines depicting the various acts? If an art book of models and/or pictures showing nudity but nothing explicitly portrayed would be allowed (photography books, vintage an modeling)? Asian comic books (mangas) an even some americam comic display nudity as well as other sexual content however majority are censored accordingly (usuay b/w imports). A lot of these art/photo books an manga are available in book catalogs along with other authorized material. Novels depicting various " sexual/sex" content are allowed, as some titles and genres dont focus but allude to some where as others focus on material in a fictional and filtered/categorized (penthouse letters an other various erotica based genres), these would be allowed?
Under publications "hard/soft covered" books are mentioned. Are hard covered books now allowed to be ordered/received once more from outside publishers? (11/4/2025)

9. Are you going to send the mail you copy back to my family and can we still get pictures from freeprint sent in to us from the company and will they be put on the tablet or come to us through the mail. (11/4/2025)

10. I dont have a comment but i would like to know, what do you do with the letters and holiday and birthday cards? Do you send the letters and cards back to the person who sent then and inform them that the individual in custody received their mail through a computerized mailing system or do you through them away. (11/4/2025)

11. I dont understand about it. Do we still get photos sent in by family or they go on the tablet. If so can we get copys of them (11/4/2025)

12. Can we have copies of the statewide publition list? (11/4/2025)

13. How long do pic stay on the tablet and if pic come from free print directly from the company why we cant get pictures (11/4/2025)

14. I am a pro se litigant searching to overturn my conviction. If and when i obtain newly

discovered evidence in the form of a witness affidavit im concerned with how i will obtain such evidence via mail without comprimsing the confidentiality and recieving the original? (11/4/2025)

15. How can our families and friends send us pictures etc. On the tablet? (11/4/2025)

16. Does the mail affect books being ordered from a company? (11/4/2025)

17. Can used books be sent in as long as they have been ordered through a vendor or book donation services, ie.(ebay, books2prisoners, reputable book donation services)? (11/4/2025)

18. How are photos sent by family members going to be handle? If they are scanned and sent to the tablet are we going to be able to get them printed in color and on 4Ã—6 durrable photo stock paper? (11/4/2025)

19. How long will our mail be posted on our bulletin? (11/4/2025)

20. How long will pictures stay on tablet, and how soon can we request to send them or anymail back to srnder (11/4/2025)

21. How is the new departmental rule changes gonna effect inmates in custody at vandalia facility? (11/4/2025)

22. How can I get COMPLETE LIST OF APPROVED PUBLICATIONS?? (11/4/2025)

23. I Need A Copy Of These New Rules Sent To Me.... I Cant Access Them On My Tablet (11/4/2025)

24. I need to know if YKTV Foreplay volume 24 platinum is on the state wide approved list. Also will inmates be able to request a copy of approved/denied publications? (11/4/2025)

25. I like what is been said but in the prison that im in they stopped us from getting hardback books. Will this allow hardback books back in? (11/4/2025)

26. I think this is a very good idea, but St. Jude sends me their order form every month so that l can send them my State Pay, will l still revieve those ? (11/4/2025)

27. I mean long as its going good im cool with it and what do yall do with the mail after yall scan it (11/4/2025)

28. I have several questions and comments, The director put out a memo stating that we could request paper copies of scanned documents and scanned greeting cards on high quality paper at the institution's expense. Then a week later the memo disappeared from the director's bulletin folder. If I want to send scanned mail out to my family for safekeeping till my release, is there a process for me to provide an envelope and postage? I had one scanned document that i could not read due to the mailroom improperly scanning the entire last page (the bottom portion

of the last page was cut off) what is my options when stuff like that happens? One document was from a Buddhist meditation center and I was not able to receive it. I thought any publication from a religious org. was okay? How do you establish what is a religious org.? I have written one greivance so far, basically addressing some of these issues. After requesting "mail print request" on a request slip as directed in the Director memo how long do I have to wait? I dropped my first request 10/10/25 and have gotten no response as of today 11/4/25. I may think of other queries and comments..... (11/4/2025)

29. God speed men! Stop the flow of drugs. I'm all for it as long as we can still have books and magic cards sent in. Hopefully that wont be ruined by drug abusers looking for a fix. (11/4/2025)

30. Following up on my account yesterday of the already-implimented mail-scanning rule change, recently a pal here at Graham CC was sent artwork by his young daughter. As per the prior (pre-scanning) policy on incoming mail, mail written with magic marker, crayons, or any other coloring instruments were banned on account that these items might be soaked in the K2 drug substance of which the offender might ingest.
Our incoming mail now scanned to our tablets, offenders cannot get high by smoking the scanned mail even if the artwork was originally drawn on to the paper with writing/drawing implements soaked in roach spray. One cannot smoke the contents of a tablet screen.
Nonetheless, artwork from my pal's daughter was barred even from his SCANNED receipt on account that mail was drawn on with magic marker and crayons. Unable to smoke the tablet's screen even IF the offender's child had penned the mail using drug-soaked crayons and markers, mail colored in artwork is being banned even from the tablet for (unknown) reasons unrelated to any prospect of offenders' â€œgetting highâ€□. Impossible to smoke tablet screen images, the drug-fighting premise on which the mail-scanning rule change is based is wholly inapplicable.
Indeed, aside from the many detriments to the mail-scanning scheme itemized by me in my survey response yesterday, the above instance of mail obstruction assures that the mail-scanning process does nothing to insure that the offender receives his mail, even if only on the tablet, which was the premises on which the rule change was proposed/enacted in the first place.
Separately, perhaps due to the added mailroom labor dedicated to the scanning of incoming mail, outgoing offender mail is now severely obstructed. Outgoing mail once typically arriving to friends and family just 4 or 5 days after being sent, suddenly mail is now taking 2 weeks to arrive at its destination. Today November 5th, four Halloween cards sent by me on October 23rd have still not arrived to their recipients.
Between the 2 weeks (or more?) it takes for outgoing to arrive at its intended destination, the typical-4 weeks it takes for incoming mail to arrive to the inmate, the ongoing banning of even-scanned mail, and the sometimes-haphazard poor quality of the scanned pages' imagery, correspondence via mail has essentially lost all utility. Scanning aside, the process of sending outgoing mail until receiving an immediate reply now takes at least 5 weeks, likely more than 6 weeks, in some instances several months. Mail scanning to no genuine purpose further obstructs correspondence by mail that is already severely obstructed to the point of uselessness.
Thank you for considering my input. (11/4/2025)

31. For transgender individuals in custody should be able to get stuff in the mail about our transittioning such picturs and books, information etc such hormones replacement, therapy

surgeries, support groups, LGBTQIUA+ FAMILY support such as pen pal's etc. Also should be able to have books on hair styles, nails, different makeup styles. And so much cause we have little resources here. Also the mail room should let us know if we have any books, letter etc. Also we should be allowed to have hard books if come straight from the company or book store and shouldnt have to send them home. Also for the phones for those who have a tablets. individuals in custody be able to use the phone after 12am on saturdays and sundays cause we have family and friends that work late and thats the only time we can call. Also we should be able to make 30 to 45 minutes calls and wait for 20 to 30 minutes to call back. Also the wardens etc should put updates on rules , commissary price, memo's, or any changes that have been made with in the prison such rules etc. Also that correctional officers and individuals in custody be held accountable for all rules etc. Also that the wardens and majors and director should make sure that updates , memo be put ont the tablets on a timeily matter. (11/4/2025)

32. Getting your mail is fine my only problem is with the pictures. There should be a place where we could save the pictures we want to keep. Also there should be a way that we could recieve them strait to our tablets rather than having them sent through the mail. (11/4/2025)

33. Greetings, i think its good to do mail threw the tablet for our safety health but also i dont agree with the idoc taking our legal courts paper/documents and making them copies if i am paying my atorney money for my deffense in my criminal case i want every single document that he sends me with no problem as long as it clears that he is my attorney and is fighting my case also im glad this drug smuggling is slowing down for our health and well being. (11/4/2025)

34. I agree that personal mail from home addresses should be stopped to protect us who are in custody however we should still be able to receive pictures (11/4/2025)

35. I am ok with digital mail is good except for the photos i think we should be able to get them. I also think are familys should be able
to send us bibles and magic cards. (11/4/2025)

36. I believe that the digital mail should apply only to people on B, C grade restrictions. (11/4/2025)

37. I dont think they need to scan pictures from credibile companies like free prints.com does mot make sence (11/4/2025)

38. Having the mailed scanned for saftey purposes I feel is an acceptable solution. My comments are as follows:
1: Pictures sent to an individual in custody and get scanned should be able to get sent home at the individual in custodys expense.
2: For individuals who receive letters from their Religious leader (Pastor, Rabbi, Decon, Bishop, etc.), should be checked and if typed should be sent directly to the individual in custody. Personally my pastor sends me his sermon which is typed and then he adds a small note at the bottom of the page. The last one was not scanned properly and the lack of communication pertaining to how we are to attain copies is confusing. Do individuals pay for copies? Are they free? Are the correctional officers going to pay attention to make sure that everything is scanned

properly? Do individuals in custody request them to rescan so eveything is shown?
3: In the Proposed ammedments publications that come from the distributor/publisher can be Hard or Soft cover. Does that mean prisons will allow hard cover books back in?
Other than these questions/comments I think the idea of digitalizing mail is acceptable and promotes a safe environment. (11/4/2025)

39. Having your photograghs scanned and then destroyed is a very hard pill to swallow. I understand the paper mail, but there were never real photos coming in with drugs on them im pretty sure. Having pictures on this temporary device is not the same as holding a photo of your loved ones. (11/4/2025)

40. Hi, there has to be a betterway to deal with photos coming in! You say that i can not receive my in coming photos. So where, rather what do you do with think aftet you send me a copy? There should be a way to get them from family straight to tablet. You have A.I. tech, to view them before we get them. So why keep them. Also, you'll only keep them posed for six months. Just say i have something of importance to me in a letter and it had been deleted. How am i to get that info back? I know that i could get a copy of the mail. Time and unseen acurrances happen. My letter my have been destroyed or lose. Than i'm s.o.l. So, please look into this. Thank you. (11/4/2025)

41. Honestly i think and believe this is a good idea. Something needed to be done. Thanks! But there are a few of us that are worried about these new proceedures on the mail because we have Bank accounts and Credit Union accounts. And we get quarterly and some monthly statements with all our pertinate info(bank account # ,SS# and stuff). And now instead of reciving this from the bank we are being told our personal info will be scanned and placed on our tablets and also the original placed somewhere here for six months. I cant speak on others just myself when i say i dont feel this here is right or safe when so many can possibly be able to see all this personal info. I have written and talked to conselors which said they dont have a clue about this situation. Can you please info me what will be done on this.
Thank you for your time. (11/4/2025)

42. How do we recieve pictures.? If mail is sent straight from source it should be approved. Add short 15 second videos and pictures on to the tablet for better access. All mail should be due process of the tablet. Only stamped legal mail should get scanned and opened in front of reciever. Add an application on tablet for video gallery and photo gallery. (11/4/2025)

43. I feel like we should get get copied mail (11/4/2025)

44. I feel like we should not get our pictures electronically. We should not have to pay for print outs when our family has to pay to send them. (11/4/2025)

45. I feel like we should not be gettimg our family pictures on the table , the table dose not keep out pictures pass 180 days i would like to have my family pictures sent to me so that i can take yhem home with me when i go home home. (11/4/2025)

46. I DONT HAVE A PROBLEM WITH ADMINISTRATION PLACING MAIL ON THE

TABLET. HOWEVER, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO KEEP OUR PICTURES. SIX MONTHS IS NOT A SUFFICIENT AMOUNT OF TIME. WHAT IF WE HAVE CHILDREN? OR WHAT IF WE HAVE HAD FAMILY OR LOVED ONES PASS AWAY? PHOTOS KEEP THEIR MEMORY ALIVE. I UNDERSTAND WE CANT HAVE A THOUSAND PICTURES WHICH IS WHY THERE SHOULD BE A CAP ON HOW MANY YOU CAN HAVE ON THE TABLET TO KEEP AND STORE. WE WOULD HAVE TO MAKE A CHOICE ON WHICH ONES TO KEEP OR DESTROY. BUT HAVING THEM REMOVED AFTER SIX MONTHS WOULD BE TORTURE. (11/4/2025)

47. I dont hink its a super bad idea i wish we would get the pictures sent in. Other than that im glad the drugs arent getting sent in anymore. (11/4/2025)

48. I dont like getting paper pictures (11/4/2025)

49. I don't like ot personally because pictures are very valuable and they only be on the tablet for six months and automatically erase. (11/4/2025)

50. I dont like it. If we can receive books from bookstores etc. We should also be able to receive pictures from Freeprints, Pelipost, etc. As long as the pictures arent coming straight from family & friends. (11/4/2025)

51. I dont have any problems with it as long as i can be given the option to send home my original pictures or letters after they are scanned onto my tablet and as long as i can still recieve any books or religous material pamplets tarot decks daily spell deck runes rune cards ect. Most of my mail at home comes in to my email from paying bills from my debit card (11/4/2025)

52. I feel like the rules changing to mail is a good idea except pictures i feel anything that stops drugs coming in real or synthetic is good for all people involved (11/4/2025)

53. I don't think the new rules are bad. I just wish we were allowed to have hardback books but only if they are from a publisher. (11/4/2025)

54. I feel any an all books maginzes an pictures coming from any company shall be giving through the mail an any other mail that does not have the plubications from a company be scanned an placed on the tablet (11/4/2025)

55. I am not opposed to the changes to the mail procedures overall, however I believe that religious ministries should be exempt from the scanning process. After the mail is opened and checked for contriband the original should be sent to the offender. If the ministry is already know by the DOC then there should be limited concern for contriband being sent from them. (11/4/2025)

56. I feel like the changes they are make with the mail it is wrong. Do to the mail is only going to be on the tablet for 6 month and if I want a copy I have to pay for it .I feel like the first copy should be free do to yall making new changes they are people in here that don't have to much support and can't pay of the copys . And they are people that only got state pay which is

only $14 a month which they need to buy soap tooth paste with .so I feel like the state should pay for the first copy (11/4/2025)

57. I believe it could do alot of good bcuz some of us would like this paper crap gone bcuz it makes us sick. I'd love to get my cards, letters and pictures to be sent back in from my friends and family. I should not have to be punished because of drug addicts. I say do it. Thank you (11/4/2025)

58. I believe it is unfair to keep original mail for only six months. If the copies we are given of greeting cards or mail get destroyed in shakedown or lost in transfer after the six months we lose it forever. Imagine if our loved one passed on and we had no way to restore it after six months. There should be no time limit! (11/4/2025)

59. I believe our mail received such as photos, post cards, birthday cards, pictures, personal letters, and any mail coming from the court should not be automatically deleated from our tablets as it could be considered to hold sentimental value and it should be the individual in custodys choice to deleat the item from their tablets. Further i beleve all post cards, birthday cards etc... Should be allowed to be sent to an address of choice by the individual in custody so that all mail can be preserved for sentemental purposes if posible at the expense of IDOC due to IDOC implementing these additional proceedures. This mail should not be destroyed unless an individual has been given adequit time to decide where such mail should be sent to preserve such correspondence, individuals in custody should not be subjected to further limitations due to a decision made by IDOC administrative staff. Many incarcerated value their mail and its an integral part of us holding onto hope. Some of us do not have a possibility of obtaining release and some do. Those that do or dont have possibilities to obtain release even with De Facto life, LWOP sentences need hope in this Negative enviroment. Stripping someone of their hope strips them of the only thing they have preventing them from losing their sense of humanity. A sense that is already a struggle for many of us incarcerated to maintain currently. Our peace of mind is crucial to maintaining this sense of humanity. If a goal is to rehabilitate then reasonable compromises should be met to promote peace and rehabilitation within the incarcerated population without stripping the population of things that hold sentimental value to us and give us the hope we so very much need. Thank you for this opportunity to make a comment on this and i hope this is taken into consideration before anything is made permanent. Respectfully Submitted, (11/4/2025)

60. I dont think correspondance between co-defendants or legal paperwork between co-defendants should be scan on the tablet. That mail should be deliver straight through to the individuals in custody. So there can be no misunderstanding about mail getting to one another. Also, of course important mail should not be scan on the tablet meaning affidavits, notarized mail, or child custody mail. (11/4/2025)

61. I believe that we have to adapt to technology, as well with new rules and procedures in order to stop illegal contraband coming in to prison. But it has to be a way to get a physical copy (not the original) of what was sent to us from our families, that way we can keep it with us, because it means alot to most of us. I believe that, the mail room should be full staff at all times with people capable to keep up with all daily mail and are not bias. Finally, I don't want to be

around with peolple who smoke or do any illegal subtance, that will damage my respiration system. But I do agree this step is to help us all, from staff to individuals in custody... (11/4/2025)

62. I believe that we should be able to get a physical copy of our mail (ie. Letters, photos, documents, etc.) Because we might not be able to ever hear or see these family member again. We are being punished about other people's actions. If you want to limit the mail or put stipulations on it thats fine, but not being able to get our mail ever is crazy. At least be able to get a photocopy of the mail not on a tablet. Anything can happen with the tablets and i want to be able to keep all my memories and letters from my loved ones. (11/4/2025)

63. I believe that when someone is sending photos or sendin mail. Why cant it be sent to an email at the facitialy so it doesnt cost the family so much money because its not like we get to keep the the incoming mail or photos. Also i believe that there is suppose to be a way for an easier an cheaper way for familyyo get us books. (11/4/2025)

64. I believe the change is good for both staff and individuals in custody, I would like to see pictures that are posted to our tablets left on there and not pergerd after a period of time, we should be able to delte them as we see fit. (11/4/2025)

65. I do not like the changes to our mail system. I recieve hand drawn pictures from my children and i want to keep those letters to take home with me so i can frame them and keep them put up safe. But now that we will be recieving them on our tablets we can not take them home with us. I want my mail from my family so i can take it home not put on the tablet then thrown away. (11/4/2025)

66. I dont mind the new implements in our mail. This is good because it prevents more caos from drugs and stuff. If it is faster. I will dissagree if they take longer to proccess mail. One more thing we are not allowed to have hard covers in this prisons I dont understand why???? I understand a max but this is a minimun security people want to go home sooner. There is books like dungeons and dragons that have hard cover and I appreaciate Edovo for having them in the tablet. How can we get some new editions from the publishers are they allowed? It will be nice to be able to have hard covers since we are taking other measures of security and by the way the school and vocational have hard cover books and people are not using them as weapons or any other use. Thank you I hope to be able to help. (11/4/2025)

67. I dont mind if your do it to stop the drug flow, but stoping all the mail is not right, i take course through the mail, school work, and legal help drom none lawer but from orgainations that let me kno about new law and key case that help me. (11/4/2025)

68. I don't agree with the change to take away our commercial tangible mail, but I understand the reason why! My suggestion would to have or reprint tangible copies of the mail/photos coming in, by request, besides the video screening of our mail coming in! (11/4/2025)

69. I dont disagree of changes, BUT, with my Bible corrospondance courses when they return them to me, I do not enjoy them being put on the tablet mail, nor not receiving our daily

bread. Its really sad that all it takes is one bad apple to mess things up here at Western Illinois Corr.Center. I do realize that there are many shoe-size people who are so self-centered and not mature enough to do the right thing from the heart. I assure you that I am one who fully respect Authority over me, I stay to myself, I do not argue with staff, I do not nor would not fight, that is not my character at all. You do need to remember, when placing people in cell houses, honor the request for single cell status when people ask for it because of toxic situations and people with walkers and canes, also making sure that all lower showers need to be handicap accessable, if need put shower handicap down to use if not need then put up in upright position. All people need to be safe not just put people with people and expect to be all ok, many 50yrs and older do better/thrive when put in cell by themselves. Best reguards (11/4/2025)

70. I think its not a bad idea as long as certain pieces of mail can be printed if requested. Also if originals could be kept if requested that would be nice too (11/4/2025)

71. I think publications brought by in person visitors should still be allowed (11/4/2025)

72. I like the digital mail but i feel like Idoc should keep our physical mail until our release so we can forever have our mail after release (11/4/2025)

73. I like the idea however, when i request for the physical letter I'd like the option to get the origional. (11/4/2025)

74. I think that we should be able to have our people send us photos and videos directly to our tablet. I think that the department should allow us to order E Zines or magazines and books and newspapers through the tablet. I also think the email/texting should be cheaper and the character limit should be longer. (11/4/2025)

75. I think thats ok when its a letter but no getting cards or pictures makes it so impersonal. (11/4/2025)

76. I think the new mail procedure is a very good system; however I wish there was a way to screen books and magazines from friends and family because some of the books I want, I already own. They're very expensive and I will not ask my loved ones to purchase me a brand new copy at full price just because I want it. I wish we had an e-book marketplace where we could purchase current titles of books and manga, and also download our purchases once released. It's hard enough already to get good books in. This just made it harder. (11/4/2025)

77. I think they should give us our mail because pictures come from a 3rd party like pelipost or freeprints so how do drugs can get on that so i think it shouldnt change leave it the old way (11/4/2025)

78. I think they shoulld check officer to..and allow picture and from free print or important mail and cards come the police ..just dont stop good things from coming in and taking away from the people are doing right (11/4/2025)

79. I feel we should be abpe to send original copy home and they should have a better time

frame other than 6 months for them to keep our mail (11/4/2025)

80. i just want to be able to order and receive in any form, either hard copy or electronic, my nude photographs from outside mail order vendors. (11/4/2025)

81. I feel that the change to policy is appropriate and reasonable.
I do feel though, that the Mail policy could be changed in other ways to adapt to this new processing system. For example, some current rules regarding what types of mail are allowed in could be edited due to the fact that Individuals in Custody are no longer touching their mail directly, ie. Writing in Color, Stickers, Glitter etc.
I understand that safety of mail room staff is also of paramount concern, but by its nature, this policy should drastically reduce or outright eliminate demand for any dangerous substances thus also reducing likelihood that a mail room employee would encounter any nefarious substance. I feel that the criteria for what type of mail can be viewed on the tablet should at least be reviewed to see if any new reasonable allowances could be made as a result of new security measures.
Also, I am unsure if anything can be done about it, but I would note that one major thing affected by this change will be access to books and literature that we have. There are plenty of wonderful free book programs as well as Wholesellers who supply catalogs to order from. However, any newer books or books that are not included in their selections could likely become difficult or impossible to obtain. Individuals can no longer have a loved one or friend purchase those and mail them or drop them off, nor would we have an ability to access any form of ordering them. (11/4/2025)

82. I feel that we should be be able to recieve cards from the vendors.i send out 20 christmas cards each year.you talk about us having contact with our families.but you take away Birthday, christmas,mothers day,fathers day cards.i know my kids,my siblings,family,friends they look forward to those cards.and i enjoy making them happy.so please let us keep the cards we purchase.Thankyou (11/4/2025)

83. I feel you should send copies of pictures through the mail instead of having someone fill out a request form for copies and after that we should be able to send the photos back or let our family download them to us and you can take out the ones that we can't have from being downloaded. (11/4/2025)

84. I just want magazines or books being sent in from amazon or b&n to be able to still come in (11/4/2025)

85. I think it is a great idea. But allow us to receive photos by text from our family and friends. (11/4/2025)

86. Hire more mail-room employers. (11/4/2025)

87. Circuit clerk should be considered incoming privaledge mail (11/4/2025)

88. On August 14, 2025, the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) implemented an Emergency Amendment to Department Rule 525 (20 Ill.Adm.Code Â§ 525), which permits the

Department to "implement electronic mail and mail copy processes *** for the purpose of delivering incoming mail to individuals in custody." See 20 Ill.Adm.Code Â§ 525.140(n)(amended at 49 Illinois Register 10954, effective August 14, 2025). Among the reasons given by IDOC for the new Rule was the prevention of the introduction of contraband, such as "Letters and magazines sprayed or soaked in intoxicating and hazardous substances." See 49 Illinois Register, at 10946. The foregoing Emergency Rule was codified in Section 525 of Title 20 of the Illinois Administrative Code, and currently ceases to have effect on January 11, 2026. However, IDOC has proposed theses same and additional changes to its Administrative Rules regarding mail and publications on a permanent basis, and they are currently subject to the public comment period required by the Illinois Administraive Procedure Act. Consistent with the purposes of public transparency in the operation of State agencies, my right to comment on proposed rules offered by the same, and based upon the impact such rules have upon me directly, I hereby offer the following comments and suggested changes regarding the implementation of IDOC's proposed new mail and publications rules.

I am currently working towards my twenty-seventh year of incarceration, twenty six of them being served consecutively behind the walls or fences of one IDOC facility or another, and still have another twenty seven years left to serve on my sentence, God willing I live long enough to ever again regain my liberty. Having served so much time is by no means an accomplishment that any man should be proud of, and I am not. With that being said, I am proud of the fact that I have maintained a relatively good institutional record for myself during my twenty six years within IDOC, and I have tried to make the most of myself and my time. In my over two-and-a-half-decade stay within IDOC, the environment has shifted drastically, as has the character of individual coming into IDOC today. The majority of my carceral period has been spent behind the walls of a Maximum Security Unitâ€”Joliet, Stateville, or Pontiac. During those times, I saw and experienced things of a shocking, outrageous, and, to most people, downright unbelievable nature. I do not wish to relive those days gone by, but I shall never forget them.

Suffice it to say, drugs and violence were an ever present reality of prison life, even when I first entered IDOC as a 20-year-old kid. But the dynamic was the polar oppisite than it is today. Young men like myself at the time were the minority, while older men who instilled a semblance of discipline and structure into the environment were the majority. Staff were then generally aware of all that was transpiring, but it was overall a substantially calmer environment than exists today. Today, young men are the rule, while elders are the exception thereto. As a consequence, it is now a much more chaotic and dangerous environment for both staff and the incarcerated within IDOC than at any time previously that I can recall during my imprisonment. Be it that today's environment in IDOC is merely a reflection of current day societal norms, or the result of a complete degredation of any type of deterent disciplinary system whatsoever, the fact remains that the present level of drug use/possession and violence within is unacceptable by any measure. I have never personally been one to indulge in any of the foregoing activities, as proved out by my disciplinary history, and, as the years have progressed, I have become less and less tolerant of even wanting to be around those types of things.

Unfortunately, neither staff nor offenders can even turn around to evade those activities anywhere within IDOC these days. I do not know if I shall ever see freedom again, but I surely do not want to envisage spending the rest of my life surrounded by present day conditions. I simply want to do my time in relative peace, making the most of myself, my time and my life, trying to redeem myself in the eyes of my God, while paying my penance to society for my offenses against them. Given the fact that I alone committed the acts responsible for me being

here, I have very seldom ever complained of my conditions of confinement. With that being said, it is more than high time that IDOC responds to the unacceptable conditions within its prisons today. I, as a prisoner within one of IDOC's facilities, am for the most part in support of the current measures regarding mail as proposed by IDOC to reign in the present drug use/possession and violence problems.

As a general matter, I fully support IDOC's current proposal, and believe they are on firm legal footings, with one caveat. First of all, every single court in the country to have considered the exact type of mail and publication restrictions being proposed for the same reasons by IDOC have upheld them in the face of First Amendment challenges by prisoners. See Human Rights Def. Ctr. v. Bd. of Cnty. Comm'rs for Strafford Cnty, 654 F.3d 85, 2023 DNH OH (D. N.H. 2023); Swindler v. Ruble, 6:24-cv-00590-AA, 6:24-cv-01465-AA (D. Or. Mar 26, 2025); Williams v. Redman. CAUSE NO. 3:20-CV-196-JD-MGG (N.D. Ind. May 12, 2021). Thus, IDOC's current proposal stands on solid First Amendment ground. However, in its current form, the proposed changes to Rule 525 pose a significant Fourteenth Amendment problem.

Both IDOC's currently effective and proposed Rule 525.145 provide, in relevant part, that:

> "(a) When mail is digitized or photocopied in accordance with Electronic Mail or Mail Copy processes, the original documents shall be retained for no less than six months after the date the mail is scanned or photocopied unless the documents are subject to a grievance.
>
> (b) Original mail documents subject to a grievance shall be retained until the grievance is resolved or the grievance process is fully exhausted."

See 20 Ill.Adm.Code Â§ 525.145(a) and (b)(as amended at 49 Illinois Register 10954, effective August 14, 2025; and as proposed October 10, 2025, at 49 Illinois Register). The processes adopted by IDOC in accordance with this Rule are set forth in the Memorandum issued by Acting Director Latoya Hughes on September 26, 2025. Additionally, the Illinois Department of Corrections' website sets forth a statement on IDOC's stance concerning the "New Processes for Non-Privileged Incoming Mail & Publications." Among other things, the answer to question number 8 in the Frequently Asked Questions section of that public document provides that "IDOC is unable to return original documents to the sender after the documents are scanned." Thus, IDOC's public statements as well as the language of both the current Emergency and Proposed Rule itself indicate that IDOC intends to save mail for at least six months and then, at some future point, destroy it, without even so much as permitting individuals the option to send it out. This raises significant Fourteenth Amendment rights issues for prisoners and IDOC.

In Redman, cited above, the Federal District Court for the Northern District of Indiana upheld restrictions similar to those proposed here by IDOC over the staunch objections of the prisoners there, but, in so doing, the Court placed a great deal of significance upon the fact that the prisoners' mail there was not simply being destroyed, but was presumably being held in their

property until release. In finding this to be a decisive factor in the mail policy's constitutionality, the Indiana District Court relied upon Koger v. Dart, 950 F.3d 971 (7th Cir. 2020), where the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit (the highest federal court covering Illinois) held that prisoners possess a Due Process "property interest" under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution in items received through the mail, and, therefore, a prisoner is "entitled to ship" the items out at his own expense prior to release "or reclaim them from the [prison] at the end of his confinement." Dart, 950 F.3d at 975-76.

In short, IDOC's current mail and publication proposals are beyond reproach on First Amendment grounds, but, to the extent that IDOC's current stance is that individual's mail will eventually be destroyed once scanned without the ability to send the items out of the facility, the Proposed Rule presents enormous Fourteenth Amendment Due Process property rights concerns. This will likely result in substantial unnecessary litigation adverse to IDOC without further clarification and rectification. As a result, I propose that IDOC simply insert into 20 Ill.Adm.Code Â§ 525.145 a sub-section (c) which provides substantially that "After items received are scanned or photocopied, an individual in custody may either choose to mail the original documents out of the facility at his or her own expense, or to have the same released during a visit after giving prior notification of his or her intent to do so."

Thank you for this opportunity to provide my own commentary upon the proposed mail and publication Rule changes the Department has put forth, and for showing a renewed dedication to improving the conditions of confinement for prisoners and the working environment of the staff within IDOC. (11/4/2025)

89. I am all for the mail system changes as it will make it safer for all individuals in custody and staff as well. The one problem I have and always have had is the mail to and from the Circuit Clerks being treated as ""Non-Privileged"" and is opened in the mailroom and searched and not in the presence of the individual in custody to whom it is mailed to. I believe the mail to and from the Circuit Clerks should be re-classified as ""Privileged"" or ""Legal Mail"" and be opened and searched while in the presence of the individual in custody it is mailed to as this mail most of the time contains Legal Mail. Thank You for your time! (11/4/2025)

90. I understand the reasoning given behind this but i dont think its fair to all of us. There are too many avenues for drugs to come in, this wont stop it. Also after our mail/pictures are scanned and/or copied for us, i believe we should be given the opportunity to send our original mail/pics back home or to whereever we want to. IDOC should not be able to just keep our original mail/pictures. (11/4/2025)

91. 1. â€¢ ELECTRONIC TRANSFER TO FACILITY FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES

I would suggest that rather than have friends/family squander their limited finance on paper, ink and postage to mail things that we will never receive, create a implementation that will allow them to electronically transfer documents, letters and the like by means of email or other means where institutional staff can review for security purposes and then transmit the same to individual tablet devices.

2. â€¢ LEGAL MAIL FROM CLERKS OF THE COURTS

I would suggest that mail received from CLERKS OF THE COURTS be, AUTOMATICALLY AND WITH PRIORITY, printed and physically delivered to individuals in custody as those communications contain very rigid DEADLINES and responses imperative to

their access to courts to which litigants must respond in a timely fashion and/or present to Law Library staff in order to support the need for increased access to Law Library assistance.

3. â€¢ MORE SECURE HANDLING OF ELECTRONIC MAIL

I would suggest implementation of a more secure means of identifying and delivering electronic mail to tablet devices to ensure that the names, addresses and mail content is not exposed to other individuals in custody thereby risking the abuse of letter content and manipulation of friends /family through unsolicited contact and the placing of ones friends/family in direct threat of danger as a direct result of any number of communications/actions by those who receive improperly delivered electronic mail.

4. â€¢ PROPER PROMULGATION OF ELECTRONIC MAIL RULE CHANGES

Notably, the recent implemented and enforced electronic transfer of mail was described in tablet bulletin posts as a "PROPOSED" rule change that reflected absolutely no Register Number or effective date bringing the implementation of the same into question of proper promulgation and legality. Rule(s), such as this, cannot be implemented until those effected are given prior notice BEFORE implmentation, given prior notice of EFFECTIVE DATE(S), are made aware of the proposed rule(s) AUTHORITY relied upon and any and all disciplinary measures or other consequence for failure to comply with the same.

I hope that these suggestions and information will serve to ensure a more safe, secure and effective electronic mail system. Thank you for your time!! (11/4/2025)

92. I would say the changes are very much needed. The K2 problem is crazy and I breath smoke on the gallery daily. The drugs at Pontiac come through the legal mail more than anything else.

Now my only issue with the new system is getting real photos. Not printed on regular paper but photo paper. How can we have photos for our album?

Thanks for your time and some positive changes. (11/4/2025)

93. I understand the reasoning given but i think its not fair to all of us. This may slow down the flow of drugs but it wont stop it. There are too many avenues to get drugs in. Also i think we should be given the opportunity to send our original mail/pics home once they are either scanned or copied. IDOC should not be able to just keep our original mail/pics. Personally, I dont think that our pics should be scanned or copied if they are coming straight from a company. (11/4/2025)

94. #1. I think mail that is addressed as "Return to Sender" should either come back to the individual so we can resend it to the correct address or be provided a notice from the mail room to send it to the correct address.
#2. Certificates that are earned from correspondence courses should be sent directly to us. We need these certificates in the original form in order to be placed with Court Petitions and Clemencies. (11/4/2025)

95. 99% of the drugs entering the facilities are being sent via legal mail. The measures stated in the proposed changes do not do enough to verify the authenticity of the sender. The facility should require the attorney to print their Illinois State Bar number on the envelope, or the bar number should be ascertained when confirming the identity of the sender. Also, the section prohibiting scanning legal mail should be amended to state that legal mail may be scanned if the

individual in custody poses a security risk to the facility, or has had charges of possession or distribution of drugs. Additionally, large legal envelopes with a multititude of pages should be given extra scrutiny. Addresses of attorneys should be confirmed and verified by accessing reputable legal publishers and directories, such as Sullivan's Law Directory and the website of the Illinois Bar Association. This drug problem will never end if the supply of drugs entering through legal mail isn't stopped. The proposed amendments in regards to legal mail are, as they stand, not strong enough for staff to effectuate succesful drug interdiction. They need to be given more latitude when dealing with legal mail. Copies of mail should be provided free, and every effort should be made to protect access to publications. (11/4/2025)

96. A list of approved publishers sent directly to an individuals tablet, would be helpful so we can inform our loved ones what material can be sent in. (Type of books, composition notebooks, school supplies, magazines) ect. (11/4/2025)

97. A list of Approved Vendors for Magazines, Books, Comics, (etc). (11/4/2025)

98. After reading the rule change I can say at lrast one comment is wrong. the comment that these changes won't hurt small buisnesses for buy books. It will as there is a short list of approved places to buy books from that will br allowed in and all of them are major buisnesses. Second pictures should be scanned and a printed copy be provided apon reqest or/and a speacal subfolder availiable for pictures that will last longer than 6 months, all pictures be auto returned to sender after scanning. (11/4/2025)

99. All i have to say or comment on is : I understand all of your concerns, and respect what you are doing. But, is there any way not to incorporate family photo's in that. No one can guarantee my print out of any phot's will be a good photo. (11/4/2025)

100. All photos from friends and family, should be allowed to be deliverd to Individuals in custody without them having to be photocpyied!"No one "is smoking photos,just paper! (11/4/2025)

101. Allow pictures from family and freinds to be sent directly from there ohone too individuals tablet after screening, too eliminate the backlog of photos entering the facility and having to br recopiied before issueing to individual, leaving pules of photis in mail room.
Bring back the copy and paste system available on the previous tablet. So induviduals can upload their on copues of incoming mail.
Put all movement on tablet as done in other facilities in the state, such as; weekly menu. Call passes. Mental health lessons to eliminate group classes and resolve mhp shortafe, which allows individual too complete and forward back too mhp which become easier to log in files.
Call pss notification just like ada akerts just to tablets instead of in oaoer form. (11/4/2025)

102. Allowing family & friends to send pictures to our email for a small fee will be a great feature for security & safety + generate revenue. (11/4/2025)

103. Anything that come from a church or business, we should be able to get it. I do understand the problem with drugs. But pictures, books, and church material we should get in the

mail. Thank you.. (11/4/2025)

104. As a person who does not do drugs, i applaud the efforts the state is making to combat the drug problem. For over a year i have been saying that all books ect. should be mailed in by publishers. My only three recommendations are hire more staff in the mailrooms since scanning the items will take time and add that banking information such as receipts and bank statements be allowed in with out needing to be scanned. Third, allow photos to be sent in only if they come in using a company were your family emails the photos and a company prints them and sends them in. No photos sent directly from your family. (11/4/2025)

105. As an incarcerated person I feel that it is important that hard copies be provided. Photographs should be copied onto photo-quality paper. (11/4/2025)

106. As long a you send our mail back to the address they came from after you scan them and not sending them to be trown away (11/4/2025)

107. As long as all photos are automatically copyed and forwarded to the Inmates to have physical copys of photos or better yet, allow us to receive photos through the message app like normal messaging and be able to save them to our gallary as the tablet info indicates, i have very little objection to most the mailing rules. My main concern is something i have already seen happen. That is, the staff not being properly trained or not being professional in there dutys and sending all scanned mail to all individuals in costodys tablet to were other inmates have my family and friends home addresses, photos, etc. As for incoming Legal mail. if its marked legal or priviledged mail. Verifying it should be simplified through public records of certified paralegals and the B.A.R. Association. Having a pre-verified database would greatly relieve unnessassary work and wasted time on mail room staff not to be opening inmates legal mail anymore! This is a huge violation or my legal and constutional rights to, Attorney Client Priviledge. If the facility says we are allowed to mark something Legal or priviledged then it should be allowed as legal or priviledged mail when it comes back in! For some reason this is not being done or logically concidered with Clerks of the County Court Houses. Wheather or not something is sent by the county Clerks Office, it must be understood and recongnized as Legal mail because the county clerk handle all court/legal mail from the Courts! These places are the safest places to receive mail from as they are sworn to a strict code of conduct. So if there is a court house stamp/seal on the return address then it should be automatically legal mail! (11/4/2025)

108. As part of an effort to combat continued drug usage within the department of corrections, and drugs entering the department of corrections - via the mailing system-, i support mail scanning with the exception of photos.
While i do understand that an extreme initiative must be made regarding mail, photos should be the one piece of mail left undisturbed. Especially in such circumstances where photos are being sent through a third party recognized mailing company, like FREE PRINTS or PELIPOST. These companies and others of the same sort allow for families to text or email photos -by way of a phone application- to the photo provider. The provider then prints the photos, and mails them to the institution for the individual in custody to receive. All original inspections of photos still remain in effect, then the individual in custody receives the hard copy.

A large percentage of families utilize photo applications for mailing pictures to individuals in custody due to its convenience. Before this time, i rarely ever received photos. It would be extremely unfair to dissallow individuals in custody to remain receiving the original/ hard copy of mailed photos, especially when paid for photos can't be returned to families. As an alternative, photos are being destroyed or simply thrown away.
Although individuals in custody are being given the option to have photos printed, as time goes on, paper based photos easily tear, become weather damaged, or lose its color. Additionally, Pictures containing obituaries, or moments that have only been captured once, sometimes can never be duplicated at a later date. This will eventually take an emotional and mental toll on all individuals in custody.
Therefore, Please, take into consideration the effect that scanning photos will have. I thank you for your time. (11/4/2025)

109. Buenos dias se les agradese poner la aplicacion en espaÃ±ol tambien gracias (11/4/2025)

110. Can you just send the original mail, pictures, ect. Back to the sender? Instead of throwing them away. (11/4/2025)

111. Can you put that pictures from freeprint, pely post, and other companys like them can be given to the INMATES. (11/4/2025)

112. Could it be possible for all facilities to post the,"Statewide publication reveiw list as well as there regional publication list."On each individual tablet?For instance it will limit the stress of whats approve and whats not. You can label it as director and/or warden memo.And just up date the publication list for state and local every 30 days.Or is it whats denied locally is also denied statewide?Is that what you're saying? (11/4/2025)

113. Due to the fact that Indoviduals in Custody are not allowed to recieve Hardback books, this proposal will extremely limit all the books we are able to get. Dungeons & Dragons, Pathfinder, and many other games that thousands of incarcerated people play are in hardback books. I am all for going electronic with the mail, but remove the rule limiting us to softcover books. If they only come from the Publisher, then that shouldn't be a problem. (11/4/2025)

114. Even if the proposed changes take effect permanantly there are wrinkles that needs to be ironed out. For example, today I got digital mail on the tablet from a religious organization that sends bible studies. Nevertheless, it is now assumed we aren't even allowed to do bible studies as they are downloaded rather than being sent in. Some bible studies I participate in are from several years. Please consider my concern for the masses as many individuals in custody participate in correspondance courses via postal mail. (11/4/2025)

115. I Dont Like The Changes To Mail. i Would Like The Real Picture of My Children. (11/4/2025)

116. I believe these changes violate our constitution. (11/4/2025)

117. Violation of our rights. (11/4/2025)

118. I think this is bullshit for scanning our mail because the officers brought the stuff in (11/4/2025)

119. I dont like the idea. To me its another way of control. Other states tried doing the electronic mail and it didnt help. (11/4/2025)

120. Dont think its Constitutional (11/4/2025)

121. About the changes to incoming mail is unfair, for example, I am in the process of obtaing records from DCF, and their mail to me should be private, and also its a part of my criminal case, and now I cant use the oaper version for my exhibits, because Menard Corr. Cntr will not provide a copy of my mail, when someone gives corrections a inch they take a yard, we are now not allowed even magazines, for examples, college, and NBA season has just started, and my family loves to by me spirts mags, and even swim suits, but now that has been taken away, I've been incarcerated for 33 years and have never had a publisher send me a book, this is unherd of as far as books, so this is unfair, and true their arr adult magaize, or adult fantasy books that are niw going to be X'ed out but for the over all theme the mail situation is unfair. Also please ask them to give me a copy of my DCF mail. Thank You. (11/4/2025)

122. At Western Illinois Correctional Center Several educational material has been denied or revoked tho it comes straight from the publisher. Grievances have been filed on these issues and administrativstaff have determine it a blanket policy to not distribute articles or publications because they see it as a hazordaous material without proper due process (11/4/2025)

123. BY DIGITIZING OR COPYING MAIL WILL ONLY STOP 25%
CONTROL ACCESS AT ALL TIMES IN
WHAREHOUSE CLOTHING MAINTENANCE
INSIDE LAWN INDUSTRY COMMISSARY
NEED TO LOCK OR CONTROL ACCESS TO
BUG SPRAY PAINT THINNER WASP SPRAY
ANY CHEMICALS INJESTED INHALED SMOKED (11/4/2025)

124. By the State taking away a Persons Mail & forcing them have it on the tablet is a violation of that oersons Rights! If that Person has Never had His or Her mail Flaged for braking any Rules of the mail services, why is Other being pentalized for someone else breaking Mail Rules or Missuse of previlages, why am l being punished for someone elses infraction? I think the ppl who have been caught or punished, should have there mail scanned or monitered. (11/4/2025)

125. Defying federal rules regarding US Postal mail is illegal without changing constitutional profencies and proves that illinois correctional officials are circumventing federal law which isnt suprising at all. If the proper officials in the department of corrections would actually look into the problem of contraband being mailed into facilities they would see the occurances are fewer than staff claim,because of a republican adjenda to stop mail coming in to inmates who do not do drugs and want mail from families! We are being denied mail from our loved ones! On top of

that the individuals in custody who are having it sent in or are being caught for doing drugs in the cell arent being held accountable ,very few inmates are charged and the ones being caught for doing said drugs arent held acountable, they get let right out of segregation. nor are exposures in cell housing units being properly investagated and inmates who dont do drugs are subjected to smell the dangerous smoke, staff dont do enough cell wing checks, they stay in the core and only come on the wing when its count time or to make sure doors are closed at the start of dayroom, meanwhile inmates who dont do drugs have to smell the smoke, but somehow dont have episodes or pass out from exposure which is suspect when staff complain of exposures when being on the wing, what is different? Real investagations need to be done and actually the people who send the contraband need prosecuted and not allowed to ever send in mail again. More importantly inmated caught doing drugs need prosecuted by law and given more charges! The penalties for occurances of having used drugs is lax at best and inmates are being let out to do it over and over. This only hurts us inmates eho do not do drugs. My family alone is really upset that they cant send pictures they draw or color or write and communication between them and i is small and i have children who would like to draw pictures for their dad and its depressing and only hurts the children and its not fair for someone who doesnt get it sent in or doesnt do it period! Its not fair that those who do do drugs arent held accountable like they should be and prosecuted. Real strides in correctional security need implimented not half hearted tries. Actual smoke dectors need put on cell wings and in each individual cell and staff needs to fix cameras in cell wings in our facility and staff need to do more regular checks in housing units because inmates do drugs out in the open here in this facility and no one does anything about it! Nor does anyone care about the inmates who are subjected to the smoke! I dont want to die! I want to feel safe while in prison and feel anything but safe because of lax procedures of staff not coming on the wing as much as they should. Its simple, do your job correctly and you wouldnt have to punish people who want mail from family. But nothing like that will change and weither or not they stop the mail drugs will still be here and if they look at statistics it raises regardless of stopping the mail. (11/4/2025)

126. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
â€¢ Letters and magazines sprayed or soaked in intoxicating and hazardous substances.
â€¢ Books with weapons hidden inside.
â€¢ Mail with hidden communications commonly used to aid in escape or for purposes of targeting or assaulting other individuals in custody and staff.
â€¢ Books with electronic devices such as, cell phones, chargers, and wireless headsets hidden inside.
Implementation of an electronic mail and mail copy processing system and a policy that allows individuals in custody to receive publications delivered to the facility from the publisher only will significantly enhance the integrity of safety and security and public interest.
6) Any published studies or reports, along with the sources of underlying data, that were used when composing this rulemaking: No
7) Will this rulemaking replace any emergency rule currently in effect? Yes
8) Does this rulemaking contain an automatic repeal date? No
9) Does this rulemaking contain incorporations by reference? No

10) Are there any other proposed rulemakings pending on this Part? No
11) Statement of Statewide Policy Objectives: This rulemaking does not impact, create or expand a State mandate as defined in Section 3(b) of the State Mandates Act. [30 ILCS 805].
12) Time, Place and Manner in which interested persons may comment on this proposed rulemaking: Interested persons may submit written comments during the 45-day First Notice Period which commences on the issue date of this publication in the Illinois...
...this section was taken from the memo give by Latoya
(Director of IDOC). Their ability to take individuals mail isnt based on any study or law that allows them to do so and this is away for the BOP to spy on legal mail thats it and if they say its not then why are they infringing on every justice impacted person Due Process ? (11/4/2025)

127. digitialized mail is uneccessary. the mail room is already backed up and alot of our incoming mail was burned i still have not recieved photos of my family that was sent 3 months ago...possibly burned as well, very dissapointing because im deaf and with my struggles to place calls home now mail is an issue (11/4/2025)

128. Drugs are still going to get in (11/4/2025)

129. Dont think it is right honestly. If departmet of corrections would search better and actually track down the smoke smell it would better (11/4/2025)

130. Enforce the rules. Right now I watch inmates use drugs, steal, fight, threaten officers, make hooch , mainly without any punishment. Start testing for the drugs, then enforce it on the inmate and whoever mailed it. Watched a guy at chow today get mad because he didnt like the cooking and throw his tray. His punishment- nothing. People using others pin numbers, using phones while on phone restriction, being out when their not suppossed to be, going to other wings to move drugs, sex, stolen goods, no one sees anything. Treat everyone equally and enforce the rules. Get them their meds, schooling, mental health, transfers, whatever, just do it fairly and by the rules. Not whatever you want. (11/4/2025)

131. Everyone can not afford to purchase books (updated) and books to prisoners programs should not be blocked to dontating books to individuals in custody. Also the free phone calls do not work for the non tablet phones plus everyone has not recieved nor have headphones with a mic like my self help me obtain a head phone with mic please (11/4/2025)

132. First of all the changes are pointless due too the fact that family and freinds are not the only people bringing in drugs its also lawyers attorneys and not trying to or put any form of misinformation on any officers because im a individual in custdody but correctinal officers are bringing drugs in too.so the way there doing this is pointless its not going to stop if it was why are there still drugs in here.people are still getting drugs in.so if you want to stop drugs from getting in stop mail in general can you do that no you cant unless the illinoi law changes. But then again can you stop it. No because you still have officers who are also what humans which some not all want to be reckonized as gang reckonized as a player reckonized as oh i might have a badge but im for you guys. They want to feel safe. There still human there stupid and make mistakes and are not perfect just like us.so if your goal trully is to stop drugs which i highly

disagree then you will have to make major changes in law people will have to be replaced with a.i. robots.will that happen will you work to get to that point no you wont because you have to pay bills right so my point is its pointless. (11/4/2025)

133. First, its more of a job for officers to scan the mail. Also it wont stop anything, because it'll only be brought in a different way. The inmates who are caught competantly with the drugs should all be housed together. Away from the non-smokers. Also who really cares if ignorant inmates get high. If IDOC offered REAL and ANY REHABilitation services,programs, classes, courses...ANYTHING to better ourselves, then it would be much less of a problem. There is no true incentives to follow any rules at all. IDOC needs a REFRESH with a true PYCHOLOGIST perspective at the core of how to HELP people in prison. Inmates take TIME as a punishment, prison is not suppose to be ran by ignorant, insecure, control addicted Officers that think their job is to make everyone as miserable as themselves. THAT is the #1 reason MOST problems occur in prisons PERIOD. It starts with the system, then who runs the system, then the focus could be on how the system can influence, inspire and uplift the "criminals" from society. This scanning mail thing is all really political in the prison politics of control. All about bending the rules for the control freaks benefit. Open your eyes. Its ALOT DEEPER than the surface. (11/4/2025)

134. First, there seems t be a desire to hinder or punish /all/ inmates for he actions of a few. I have hadhard cover books for 5 years of my sentence. And because of others i am now forced to get rid of or replace them. Just because of what others have done, or might do.
Contributing to book bans, and inhibiting people from buying books is a punishment that borders on first amendment violatons. As far as mail? Its equally cruel to inhibit position of letters , and other legal content that coukd very well be the last letter, or image of someones family members that are held,or destroyed by staff because of supposed drug infiltration. Even though the core issue ignored.
Which is that everything we have clmes through staff control points. So if narcotics are the issue its a failure of the staff. And it seems absurdto punish the inmates forthe failures of ose in charge of security. We are deprived of any real forms of expression or contact. The idea is just as absurd as punishing all immigrants for a few bad proverbial apples.
The same expands to dice. We shouldnt be inhibited from having dice simply because some might use them to gamble. Because people gamble okn everything. So manh games like dungeons an dragons use dice , and promote social growth when played properly. Which could also be used to help evaluate an develope solutons peoples world perceptions.
Asi type this im trapped in a medium/max as a minimum. Denied the ability to participate in anything with real substance. To really better people. I spend all of my time reading gamebooks which have surprising amounts of mathematics, physics, and socialogical information . all things that can be put to fundamental use in a fictonal setting. Which helps people learn, without emealizing they're learning.
If the goal is better people,then pounishing themby denying books, games, and true socializaon seems counter productive . adversity can be stength, and shape positive values.but cruelty and abuses of power only lead to resentment which leads to people becomin worse. (11/4/2025)

135. Getting unscreened mail is better, going thru the process of recieving it on the screen takes longer (11/4/2025)

136. Goofy ass shit thats what i think to be honest yall need fo give us programs or jobs at least down in mensrd im tired of being in my cell! (11/4/2025)

137. Honestly its going to far with the books i understand with letters but what if our family doesnt have money to go to barns and nobles to by books (11/4/2025)

138. (DOES ANYONE REALLY CARE?) The proposal to the mailing sysyem will not work and will have many negative affects on the Individuals in Custody. For starters, every time IDOC speaks on the "drug problem", it is always due to our families or loved ones. They are blamed for bringing drugs in on visits, sending it through the mail or hilariously flying drones for drug drop offs. Nothing is ever mention about where 90% of these drugs are coming from. It is coming from IDOC's very own staff members but nobody wants to speak on that. Yes, I agree that stoping mail will curb a very small amount of drugs from coming into the facility. All that will do is make a better profit for the dirty staff bringing in the drugs and the same problem will exist. This electronic mailing sysyem has been tried in many other states and has been a huge failure. They still have the same problems with drugs from when they started. What is the solution? Tell staff to do their jobs! Search the mail, search the visitors, search the individuals after visits and don't forget to shoot those pesky drones out of the sky. Also, quit protecting staff and hold them accountable. Search them as you do our visitors. Half the staff bring in contraband daily and we all know it. Most of it is meaningless and doesnt effect the institutions so who cares. However, when it does, take your weight and stop blaming our families. I am in Centralia CC and this has to be the worst prison for drugs I have ever been in. Guys fall out all over the place and there is constant smoke in the air. I would love for there to be zero drugs in this place because it affects me daily. Electronic mailing isn't the answer. As far as the negative effects to electronic mail, there are many. The delays have been at least three weeks for us to receive our mail digitally. Then, our mail is erased from our tablets after 6 months and our originals are thrown in the trash. My Grandmother is 92 years old and writes me sweet letters that I will cherrish forever. At least that was the case before her letters were confiscated and destroyed after 6 months. I don't even have the option to mail them back home, they are just destroyed. The pictures are just as ridiculous. We get pictures sent in from a publisher that our families pay good money for. The pictures are then scanned to our tablets and then destroyed. We will have to have to have them spend the money over and over every 6 months to send us pictures. This is ridiculous, especially since they come from the publishers. Just another hardship for for families. We need accountability! That is the solution. Quit taking the easy way out and blaming our loved ones. Thanks. I am available for an in person interview any time. (11/4/2025)

139. I believe that doing this would make the prison mail system more backup and delay us getting our mail on time. (11/4/2025)

140. I believe that the mail takes extremely too long for us to recieve our mail even our legal as well by the time we get our mail some of us ends up being late to even respond. It is not a good system.
. (11/4/2025)

141. I believe that this is a huge miscarraige of justice not everyone is involved in this dirty

paper business it seems horrible to punish everyone for that (11/4/2025)

142. I believe this is a chance for them to censor our mail and refuse it altogether. (11/4/2025)

143. I dont think its fair that people family send mail and we cant get recieve it (11/4/2025)

144. I dont think that they should make everyone pay for other people mistakes. (11/4/2025)

145. Having read the proposed changes, I noticed that most of the changes were verbiage .... Changing "Offender" to "Individual In Custody", among others. The statute as a whole I agree with. I admit that I don't like it, but I know that with the dangers associated with the chemicals that these "Individuals" are ingesting, the statute is needed to help keep both staff and inmates safe. ..... What I wish, though, is that there was a way for us to be able to keep things like photographs, and greeting cards (birthdays, Christmas, etc.). For example, I've got my 60th birthday coming up this week. Since my incarceration started, I've saved every birthday card and Christmas card that I've gotten. Some of those were from people that have since passed on. I didn't relish the idea of telling my Mother that I wasn't able to receive an actual card anymore. ..... In a way, I just view it as an example of the majority of us having to pay for the stupidity of other "Individuals". ..... (11/4/2025)

146. Hello! I hope this message finds you and your loved ones in the very best of health and spirit. As for myself, I am BLESSED despite ALL of the INJUSTICES I have suffered. Now, posting mail on he tablet is not good, because you have PRO SE LITIGANTS who depends on family members and friends help, meaning: to secure affidavits and etc. Any documents filed with any pleadings have to be the ORIGINAL document. However, because the documents are posted on the tablet, residents cannot use them..This is one of many reasons why posting mail is a terrible. (11/4/2025)

147. Here's the thing with the mail ; you are making all of these changes to stop the drugs from coming in, but the stuff that is getting through is so obvious that a child fresh out of the womb could see. The problem does'nt come from the mail itself, it comes from the lack of training and care. At our facility the mail room staff have been changed so many times that we get new rules every other month on what we are allowed and most of the time it changes according to the beliefs of the staff on duty at the time (11/4/2025)

148. Honestly i feel like its not right to penalize everybody for something that dont have alot of truth to it...ive seen c.o's over exaggerate the situation...the c.o's fake exposure to get paid days off...its impossible for them to get exposed to any harmful chemicals just by breathing or touching anything..only amthrax have that effect..i got almost 20 years left in jail so my mail pictures and greeting cards mean alot to me...having it on a tablet for 180 days than i lose the original copy is crazy..yea they print it out...paper is always likely to get wet or damaged easily..its people in here who have health problems thats not getting care.. Or the fact we forced to drink lead water.... Over population is a problem and justice reform should be pushed for..its innocent people in jail who have no voice or no form to get out.they have c grade decks..the joint or state get paid to write bogus tickets and keep people on c grade...the mail stuff is crazy our people already go thru alot to send us mail than it will cost more to print all that mail out and

also it takes more time to scan mail than it do anything else...we have brocherswe get now that we can get the original copy its hard to fill them out..I feel like the mail shouldnt be on the tablet..i feel like if they did their job it wouldnt make it in.. (11/4/2025)

149. Honestly i feel these changes are a violation of every resident in custody in ILDOC rights,also this is a federal violation the the united states postal Mail clause by these facilitys opening resident mail and not letting them recieve their own personal on top of that also they are violating the attorney/ client communications clause by openig privileged mail and scanning and placing it on residents tablet privileged mail is obly for the resident eyes thats why it lavel privileged but it mow to piont these facilitys are didlsregarding this (11/4/2025)

150. I feel like they bogus for taking our mail everybody don't smoke (11/4/2025)

151. I feel that it is not fare to us inmates that we can't get our original mail especially pictures of our loved ones specifically of our children. (11/4/2025)

152. I feel that stopping our mail is unconstitutional and inhumane. We should be able to physically posess any mail sent to us in it's original form. Mainly because not everyone is trying to smuggle something in and secondly who cares that these young wild guys want to get high and mellow down? Honestly it's better than them getting on some medication that they don't need and it calms them down and keeps them out of the officers hair. Then thirdly why are the officers pretending that they care about what happens to the health of the offenders in custody? Because obiviously they think we aren't human because they come to work and act like they are passing out from smoke, but we live here and we aren't passing out. Then if you tell them, or the nurses that you are having trouble breathing they basically tell you oh well just deal with it! They are looking for a way to drain more money from the tax payers some how. We want and need our mail and if some guys wanna get high that's on them. (11/4/2025)

153. I feel that some of these changes will cause more of an issue considering the Illinois Department of Corrections is already a cluster fuck of an operation to begin with! This all stems from a corrupt system to management not being fully capable holding positions they are in. From the top down of our Justice system needs a complete overhaul. (11/4/2025)

154. I feel that recieving our mail on a tablet is a violation to our rights. And it may hurt our connections to our loved ones who take thier time in writing letters to us. When we are able to hold the letter in our hands and read them it feels as if we are there with them in those moments. I understand that some individuals abuse these rights but why discipline all for the descretions of others. I believe there should be a list of those who have violated abused these priviliges and their names should be put on a watch list. I also believe those same individuals' mail should be scanned and sent to them on the tablet. Some of us do what is needed to enjoy the priviliges we earn and feel that we should be rewarded for staying out of trouble and not pinished for others wrong doings. (11/4/2025)

155. I 100% know that the new mail process will not stop the access of chemically laced paper or weapons because evenrhough a good portion did in fact come through the mail, but evenmore comes through the security staff. Phones, drugs and weapons. Physcial letters mean alot to

justice impacted persons. I think if IDOC will take the route of scanning mail we should also get an automatic copy of mail and pictures. (11/4/2025)

156. I dont do drugs. I take that serious, they ruined my life. Im chaseing Degrees rights now and my dad just spent $400.00 on a book for me to learn how to get funds for correspondence. The book got sent to me from an approved vender but is no longer in print so I had to get a used one. They refused to give me the book because it was used. An approved vender is an aporoved vender. You can spray drugs on a new book just as easy as a used book so the rule makes no sence. Its already hard enough for people to go to school who are in prison actualy trying to better themselves, petty rules like this make it harder for people to rehabilitate. Please reconsider. (11/4/2025)

157. I dont feel its to bad of a change personally. I dont drink or smoke anything and nobody in my family.will ever send me any type of illegal anything. Whats the issue. Well.people are dying left and right to that paper.stuff. Its not going anywhere to me though because its to much money in it and lets face it, where theres a.will theres a way. (11/4/2025)

158. I dont like it.its unfair that i cant receive the piece of mail or whatever from my family when i have nothing to do with reasons this is being done..if mail is kept then it should be required to be held somewhere untill the person is released then returned to that individual...or at least send back to sender after being scanned..what if the loved one sending a letter passes away before release and would really want to have the mail from them.. (11/4/2025)

159. I dont like that the mail system was completely destroyed because of the VERY FEW bad apples that were responsible for the unfortunate situation that made the administration feel the need to do this to the mailing system to begin with...
There are many like myself that are unfortunately long term incarcerated that have NO involvement in any sort of illicit activities that rely more on the mail than most have now been stripped of that priviledge soly by acts of the VERY FEW that were respondible. I myself LOVE physical mail & having physical letters, post cards, photos etc that my family sends me & something physical from the people thst mean the most to me & NOT a cold low quality photocopy or digital scan of said materials.
There are other most likely quicker & cheaper options available concerning the mail security that will provide facilities & the administration the ability to still allow our physical mail through while allowing the same safety & security scanning of our physical mail that ive wanted to propose for quite awhile.... There is a company named â€œThermo Scientific" that offer portable & non portable laser spectrum analyzers such as â€œgemini & first defender" and others that allow you to take samples to put onto the machines analyzer or it has a moveable analyzer that you spot check with that within literal seconds will tell you ANY drug, chemical or other compounds that may be on an object such as paper.
Border patrol, airports & several government entities use these devices.
I ask that the administration & all of IDOC please consider these much cheaper & faster options that are just as secure be implimented concerning the safety & security of all idoc staff & the incarcerated population so we can still recieve & enjoy physical mail from our family, friends & other entities (11/4/2025)

160. I don't like nor agree with this new way of mail at all. I feel I'm being punished for the wrongs and very inapropriate actions of others. I have mail such as support letters for a clememcy coming in from my family. Those letters do no good being ""trapped"" on the tablet. Also mail from family and loved ones is a form of physical comfort. We have very little personal contact with our family and now we're loosing even more of that contact because some inmates don't have the good sense to not act like morons and idiots. Instaed of punishing us from the bad actions of others how about getting rid of the ones causing the issue. One bad apple spoils the whole basket well get rid of the bad apples. I know we can some how get copies of our mail but those of us who aren't involved in the spread of the contriban or aren't causing ther problem shouldn't half to suffer through that process. I WANT MY MAIL BACK TO THE WAY IT WAS AND SHOULD BE THANK YOU. GOD BLESS. (11/4/2025)

161. I agree with the mail going to the tablet but the books is another story ,i cant aford to buy books so my family anf pen- pal sends me color books or religous books .I know its becaues of the drugs and the smokers .But is it fare to the non- smokers . (11/4/2025)

162. I am a college student enrolled in correspondence courses at Adams State University. I have been facing challenges with courses and other important correspondence being delivered in a timely manner, if at all. Since I began the program in 2021, I have had an uphill battle due to mail not being delvered, or sent back for various reasons (like, package contained envelope or blank paper). I would like to express my concerns with the mail-scan process, due to the fact that I already receive mail in an untimely manner, and most of the packages I receive from my school contain large amounts of paper (like, the syllabus). I am in a time sensitive degree program and my timframe to complete the courses is thin. Please consider incustody individuals who are not a problem, and are in school trying to better themselves. I pay out-of-pocket for my education, and feel as if my efforts may go without notice. I understand there may be a need to process mail in a more secure way, but, perhaps some concessions can be made for individuals like me. Thank you for your attention. (11/4/2025)

163. I am against the electronic mail.idoc is punishing the masses for the poor choices of a few.It will further the emotional damage and break down of community by not ever being able to hold a card ,letter or picture of loved ones.The harm caused far exceeds the delusional benefit of stripping us of tangible bonds these items represent. Please take into consideration the mass of us who have never abused the mail system. A more productive deterant would be to punish only those who abuse the mailing system. (11/4/2025)

164. I am against the rule changes for the mail and in-person visiting. I feel i am being punished for something i had nothing to do with. First: I am a big reader of books and my family sends me books in the mail. They go to thrift shops, librarys and other 2nd hand stores for cheap books. This saves them money by paying only 25cents to a dollar or two for a book. I am only going to read the book once and pass it along to the next guy. This new rule doesnt allow them to send books anymore so now they have bins of books i cant read. This accusation that drugs and weapons are coming in hidden in books is ridiculous. The people doing the inspections need to do a better job its not rocket science. Second: They say we can request to have our mail printed out, well i have been waiting over a month for them to do it. I have requested to have it done twice and recently had to get my cellhouse counselor involved. They say drugs are coming

through the mail, well how come the people in the mailroom are not falling out or the post office workers? Third: Drugs are not coming in through the visiting room. They are very thorough when they shake down offenders. I am also told (by my family) they are thorough when they shake down people coming to visit. Both are not fun but my family and i understand the intrusive shake down is the best way to keep drugs and other dangerous contraband from making it inside the institution. How come the staff coming in daily dont get thoroughly searched? It has already been proven once that a maintenance employee ran a drug ring. I think there has to be a better way to fight the drug problem. (11/4/2025)

165. I am all for reducing the amount of drugs making their way into the facility. The drug problem has gotten out of control here. Unfortunatly, I do not think this will solve the problem. Even after the mail has been stopped people here have been getting high. I have overheard conversation between inmates saying that staff were bringing the drugs in, and when they dont have access to the real stuff the maintenance workers are spraying chemicals (roach spray and acetone) on paper and selling it to junkies. The only real way to get rid of the drugs coming in are dogs trained to sniff them out deployed at all entry points to the facility and random walkthroughs with the same dogs. I hope that this doesnt fall on deaf ears. (11/4/2025)

166. I dont think the change in the mail system will help. The main reason for the change in mail system is because of the drug problem, but you can't solve a drug problem if the C/O's are helping bring the stuff in. Here at Big Muddy River Correctional Center, i know of at least 2 C/O's who bring in sheets of "O" the drug/bug sprayed paper and sell it to inmates or are paid to bring the stuff into the prison. I think not only does taking away our hard copy of mail deface the sentimental value of the letters, it also causes some of us to have major issues with deppression. I am one who suffers from major anxiety and deppression, so having the original hard copy of mail helps me stay in a good mind set. I believe that the C/O's should be searched more throughly to make sure they dont bring anything into the prisons and that we should be aloud to have our original copies of mail after they have been properly searched. Also, i think instead of just giving a 'slap on the wrist' to those who get caught with drugs i think they should get a whole new charge and be sent to a different prison of higher classification. (11/4/2025)

167. I dont think juat because of a few amount of inmates all of us shouldnt habe to suffer. Being incarcerated af away from our loved ones is bad already but now we cant eve get physical cards amd letters tat are sent to us (11/4/2025)

168. I dont think the change is making a difference in the drug problem so far. I dont know how they are doing it but it is still a problem. I dont feel that it is fair for the people that dont have any ties to the issues to have to lose the oppurtunity to get pictures from there family. I know they can still go through a publication but that excludes me getting school pictures of my daughter every year like i have for the last 8.5. So i oppose the change. Our mail, though it may not be alot, is still emotionally important to have. Then it only stays on our tablets for 6 months and our actual mail gets thrown away. I just dont feel that is right. Thank you for the oppurtunity to express our thoughts. (11/4/2025)

169. I am gonna speak on and for everyone here that us incarcerated, because we are all we have together even if we dont have any family members on the outside. we would like for our

pictures and letters to come in the mail because now it takes more time to get to us now instead of a couple of days its now a few weeks to a month or so to even get a letter via tablet thru scanning the letters and pictures. so it takes longer for us to get our mail now that it is scanned and sent to our tablets, even tho it is a safer way but it takes way too long for us to receive letters and pictures. (11/4/2025)

170. I feel like changing the mail prolong us getting our mail the other way it was better. (11/4/2025)

171. I feel like everybody mail should not be copied because everybody is not sending in toxic things on paper check my mail i never been red flagged for mail or for having sent anything in that dont suppose to be sent in so im against it 100% another reason why is because we might have a loved one that passed away and we dont want no copies of there obiturary . (11/4/2025)

172. I feel like it dont make sense that we cant have actual mail , they are already using a black light to scan the mail to check for substances. So to scan the mail with a black light and still not give us our mail defeats the purpose of scaning the mail at all , also we would only have acess to our mail for 180 days . that mail process is counterproductive , and if they scanning our mail and still not giving it to is needs to be rethought out n revised. (11/4/2025)

173. I feel like its wrong to punish everybody for other people actions. Everybody dont know how to download apps to email you on them, like my grandma for instance, she would write or send greeting cards. I dont care how many times i told her she still wouldnt know how. Then the things your family and friends send you are memories, but now everything gets sent to the tablet and all your stuff gets deleted once its 6 months old. Mail shouldnt be tooken away. (11/4/2025)

174. I feel like the implementation of paperless mail is unfair to individuals in custody, as well as our family. I feel that this new way of scanning the mail is going to hinder the way we correspond with the outside world. It was already taking approximately a month for us to get our mail before they started scanning. I just got a card that got scanned sent to my tablet that was sent a month ago, and they only scanned half the card, so i cant even see what my family wrote in the card. On top of that, i now have to write and request for the mailroom to send me a copy of the card. How much longer is that going to take? Probably another month? That means i wont even be able to respond to my families letters til around 2 months after they mailed it to me. This is unfair. It is also unfair that our families and friends are spending money on cards, envelopes, postage, time writing and sending the mail, just for it to be thrown away. I dont think they, or anyone else for that matter would appreciate that. I also believe this new system is overloading the mailroom workers workload and burdening them more than they already were. I dont believe this new system is fair to anyone involved (11/4/2025)

175. I feel like the mail changes is a negative change because after a while the pictures expire and cannot be found, if someone wants to look at pictures from longer than that limit than they are out of luck. (11/4/2025)

176. I feel like the mail system and the putting it on the tablet not gonna. Stop or it may slow the drugs down some but the department dont want to admit it that stuff is bringing in the bulk of

drugs thats coming in and thats a known fact. The stuff dont get shook down or nothing (11/4/2025)

177. I feel like we should be able to recieve all of our mail. It is a violation of are rights. This is a way of keeping connection with our loved one. And something we can look back at any time. We should be able to have the physical mail and it no be on the tablets. (11/4/2025)

178. I beleive that they should not put the mail on the tablet or that they should not stop people on the outside from sending books from home publication are fine. I ALSO beleive that the problem is not with the mail i believe its with security and that theyvdontbhave enought staff to manged the amount of indiviuals in custody. I dont think it will work out the way they think .years on down there will be a class act lawsuit in affect that will benfit everyone envolved. (11/4/2025)

179. I believe in the safety of inmates and staff but it is unfare to people that have disabled and retired familys because of the cost to order books instead of family picking them up at a local store to send to us. I believe in truth and trust for the crimes you commit but not all criminals do poor is a real thing to some people and some people return to corrections for a place to live with a poor family. (11/4/2025)

180. I believe it is good to try to stop the contraband from coming in. But the way the pictures are now electronic or paper copies makes it hard to keep up with things of sentimental value. I understand letters but i think pictures we should still get in original form. Why cant you just scan the pictures before we get them? (11/4/2025)

181. I believe it is unfair not everyone should suffer because of the ones that are smoking paper the ones that are smoking are making profit should be punished severly they are never punished thats the problem. (11/4/2025)

182. I believe it should be unconstitutional . the mail does not carry the same sentimental value from loved ones . from letters to pictures .... & it will automatically be deleted in a few months .... I still have mail from 11 years ago and i value it bacause its physical mail . if i communicated trought emails and text . thats also available . but to take a picture of my mail with out any infraction that would justify it . its not right . maybe it alleviates contraband by mail . but does not copleteley stops it . (11/4/2025)

183. I believe its a great change,however now i can have the physical photo of me and my family,i have to have a copy made which makes me feel cut off from the emotional attachment..please reconsider going back to old methods (11/4/2025)

184. I believe that depriving incarcerated individuals (those who exibit good behavior, and no diciplinary reports) of their physical mail is unfair. Not all individuals indulge in illegal conduct, and those individuals should be intitled to their physical mail. Furthermore, after mail and photos etc., are uploaded to the tablets, their is no memo, or, any way of us incarcerated individuals knowing what is being done with our physical mail. Us incarcerated individuals should have knowledge of, and a choice on whether our mail gets sent back home at our own expense, or

destoyed with our consent. Such changes and/or memos should be considered at the soonest convenience. (11/4/2025)

185. I believe that IDOC's response to the so-called crisis on safety and security is irrational and unresponsible. IDOC needs to focus on the root causes of substance abuse and other activities that leads to the compromise of every facility across the state.
Creating pathways for people to educate themselves, expanding programing that helps incarcerated people heal from the traumas they have endured in their life, and collaborating with legislators to create policies that allows people to earn early release despite the type of harms they committed to get incarcerated.
If you give the people the opportunity to earn their freedom and give them the type of education that transforms lives, the people will no longer need to seek substances to harm themselves. (11/4/2025)

186. I believe that the mail process is more ineffective now since putting the mail on the tablet because I was getting mail everyday from my mother whom Im attempting to rebuild a relationship with because she served thirty years in IDOC. Since Ive been having this tablet & the mail been on there no mail has came through on there. (11/4/2025)

187. I believe that the new mail system is a waste of time and energy it make love ones have to do extra stuff to get publication to the ones who is incarcerated .people work and have other things to do .so having them go thru these new changes are becoming a hassel and i believe that they will just stop all together i might be wrong but these are my thoughts (11/4/2025)

188. i believe that this is a clear violation of our 4th amd constitutional rights being i understand that the system i trying to protect individuals in custody but from who because this method takes away our mail process completely and digitize it but we cant even send our mail back home to our family so thats altering the whole process example obituary we cant replace certain things but also idoc is using security to take from us but what about correctional officers? they are responsible as well cause they bring contrband in as well being paid to do so so its bigger than mail and books and no one wants to acknowledge that. has mail been breached yes but has officers helped bring drugs into the facility yes as well. takes away from our family and love ones taking there time to write or send things we can only see on a tablet its part of our communication and its a bigger picture why not just scan the mail for drugs as they come in and withthin a reasonable time give us the mail that has not been altered or considered contraband. staff does things just to take from us and people already got other offenders mail and pictures on tablets not registered to the mail recieptent so its alot wrong already that risk more harm than good in this process plus yall dont consider our family pays to send us stuff so thats another issue how can idoc tamper with stuff that our family pays to send us thats a issue as well. so i feel its a bigger conversation and picture in all of this that effects all of us doing time and as long as you got crooked officers drugs will never stop being in idoc and history has shown this for centuries it will never stop. and another issue was idoc failed to protect us as well because how many officers allegedly passed out from so called drug laced mail but none of these so called officers were ever tested to even confirm they were infact being truthful so were being penalized and idoc hasnt even done the right protocols to establish the truth so yall opened the door for fake health crisis issues to hurt us for money so now any officer say im sick from drugs can get paid

with leave and no real test was did or done. its not fair or right just because were incarcerated doesnt mean were not human and thats how were treated daily stuff taken just cause yall got tje power to do so and its not right. i dont want to just be heard i want to be understood. i hope and pray a better assessment is done on this whole process thank you from kiar brown m18929 (11/4/2025)

189. I believe that this is a waste of time for the person reviewing all pictures, letters/messages and converting them into pdf's. It's bad enough we are waiting for our mail more than a month it seems. Now with this it's just going to take longer. Leave it the way it was before. PLEASE! There was no problem with laced paper or any other paper mail correspondence in this joint (Western Illinois) or so they (the administration) say that multiple correctional officers have gotten sick. Check with the hospitals if officers are sick (which they're not) you can even ask the HCU (health care unit) here if officers are really sick or just trying to F*** us over. The officers here have already been on alert ever since they found out that one of their own is the one that brought all the drugs in. It's not coming from outside mail it's the correctional officers, but Springfield just looked the other way when they heard that it was one of their own. This is B.S!!! It's a waste of taxpayer's money. Plus if I do receive any mail on this tablet I can only have it for a couple of months before it gets deleted. What if, GOD forbid, something happens to my family and my family member writes to me their last letter or sends me a last picture of them and I can't have a original, physical copy of said letters/pictures I'm going to be highly upset with the institution because I will not have the oppertunity to have it in my possesion, which I should. (11/4/2025)

190. I did not read the memo and it is no longer on the tablet but I have heard and I believe we should have our actual mail handed to us. This facility can not ven get our real mail delivered in a timely manner so O do not see how they will be able to scan each piece of mail. Our mail will be a year behind at all times. (11/4/2025)

191. I do not agree with the process of mail that is my daily right as a inmate to recieve books and care packages from my family (11/4/2025)

192. I do not agree with the proposal, i think it would be better for the department to just buy drug detectors for the issue then to be able to violate our federal rights to have mail. (11/4/2025)

193. I dont like the new mail system cause the pictures and the mail i get from my parents get deleted after 6 months and my parets are older so if the were to pass away id lose anything i have to remember them by and it is hard to get yur pictures printed out from the facility im in (11/4/2025)

194. I dont like it because some of my family dont know how to send pictures from the apps they only know how to print them out and send them and if they do i dont get them i get a paper copy that dont last (11/4/2025)

195. I dont like the fact that a third part company besides IDOC gets to openly view or have access to our mail. Infact, i feel like this violates federal law. (11/4/2025)

196. I dont like the fact that the mail takes so long to recieve, a month from the day it was proccessed by the postal system is to long. And to get things printed seems to take even longer. It doesnt seem fair or right to denie our right to speedy mail communication, and our right to hold our pictures when we are already so far from our families, sometimes holding a picture through the night is what keeps us holding on through the years. (11/4/2025)

197. I dont like the fact that we all are being punished because of a select group of people. My family sends me puzzle books and magazines for christmas and my birthday. Now they cant do that so that is limiting my contact with my family. There should be away to test things that come in and go after the ones who it is sent to not scare all of us. Theres more important things that need to be changed. Like goodtime for all groups of people in prison. And not force one group of people to take a program before they can get goodtime. Its not equal rights and it goes against your own mission statement. Thats just as important or maybe more important than changing mail procedures. (11/4/2025)

198. I dont like the new policy because the mailroom here is taking a long time to send the requested copies i need. Bank, loan and other correspendence info shouldnt be scanned. (11/4/2025)

199. I dont think everyone should be punished for the mail .....there are instances where staff has brought in contraband because it is so lucrative here in prison. I want to keep receiving my mail from family members and pictures from them without them being scanned or copied (11/4/2025)

200. I dont think its fair we cant get physical mail any more because they should have a way to know if somthing is not right with the mail (11/4/2025)

201. I dont think it is fair that you get to keep are picture and mail that are faimly and friends and love ones send to us. (11/4/2025)

202. I dont think is fair,what they doing with the mail coming in.we need our mail and drawings from our love ones.theres some of us that ainy going and want all we can get from tje world (11/4/2025)

203. I dont think it is right that all should suffer because of the few, our mail all ready has so many rules from no crayon to no glitter and no books unless bought from approved retail source and mailed directly from plubisher. It takes a while to get mail now l cant imagine it will help if they have to scan everything and email it to us. Will take even longer to get our mail. (11/4/2025)

204. I dont think it wil stop the drugs from coming in this place.i think it will make it harder for us to get books n magzine to read or have our family send send us books n magzing (11/4/2025)

205. I dont think its a good idea to eliminate peoples paper way of staying in touch due to some hold the letters,photos,etc sentimentally close for many years even after ones people

die,and now your saying that we cant even have that anymore? What about the staff,who is majority of the ones bringing it in? They pay individuals by this form of payment to do dirty work for them and even hits. To combat the usage of substances is a good format but the same time it is only an implemation that helps the IDOC staff outâ€¦now youll be able to create an entire new department inside of each prison for staff due to itll take way more people to scan and document said letters,photos,etc and the staff before was lazy at this job in certain prisons so how do you think theyll be now? Gotta train them etc (11/4/2025)

206. I dont think its fair to everyone in here that we be subjected to this punishment due to what others are doing. I get that the reason being is to eliminate drugs coming in, but dont take it out on all of us, do it to whoever it is constantly getting caught doing it. I for one, is very upset because not only am I someone who doesnt be involved with those stupid ass drugs, Im someone who's family cant do the freeprints app because most of my supporting family members are old and cant work new technology. Please take into consideration of those who never been flagged or involved with drugs in here. (11/4/2025)

207. I dont think its fair to get mail via tablet becasue we arnt getting it that way and its november it was supposed to start october and i am missing pictures sent last month i want my stuff the old fashioned way and more timely its not hard to scope out the bad things sent in verses the good (11/4/2025)

208. I believe the changes made to recieving books makes it much more difficult for us to be able to obtain reading material of our interest. As is, it takes a while to get to the library here to be able to check out a limited selection of books. I also find it difficult because im unaware of the process to be able to order directly from the publisher, let alone unaware of future book release dates, etc. The process of mail I believe is a good idea. But as far as books go, I think it makes it much harder to get books I enjoy. Im a very avid reader and enjoy several genres, but many times I find books in series I enjoy that the library seems to be missing one or two of the series and I cant enjoy them because im left with either a clift hanger or a missing middle book. I think family and friends should still be able to send in new books and impliment a better procedure to decect drugs, weapons or contraband. (11/4/2025)

209. I believe the mail process was doing fine the way it was before. Now that its being scanned and loaded to the tablets we as individuals are getting mail with pieces of it missing and dont get all the mail till we request it to be printed out. Its not stopping the so called drugs from getting in as the drugs they are all doing is bleach on paper or some other chemical from inside the prison facility. The mail being scanned now is only causing issues for the non smokers that have family or loved ones trying to stay in contact with us. It takes weeks almost a month before we get mail thats been here. Its ineffective and pointless. (11/4/2025)

210. I believe the proposed mail change is unconstitutional. I dont see any reason to alter the previous mail procedure, because nothing that is currently happening as far as contraband is any different than it was in the decades past. Preventing us from getting our mail from family and friends is only stealing yet another comfort that we possess. Copies dont hold the same intimacy as the personal handwritten prose. Ive been locked up for 20 years, and still keep letters that helped me through my darkest hours. Copies could never save me from the anguish the real thing

holds. The idoc are just lazy, and dont want to do their jobs, except when its time to punish or abuse the individuals in custody. Instead of worrying about the mail, yet another way to punish everyone for the abuse of a very select few, why dont you make your prisons safe from the abuse at the hands of your staff? If mailroom and IA did their jobs, then there would be no alleged contraband problem. (11/4/2025)

211. I believe these changes are not nessessary, staff here at Illinois River have exaggerated the problems here. In more then one instance staff have faked medical issues concerning drugs only to find out later that no drilugs were even present. notibly no staff were disciplines for there false reports. I also do not like the fact that the third party vendor will be selling our information. I do believe that IDOC should inform all individuals in custody of this. IDOC has remained silent on this issue I only know of this because I caught some of th hearings had in springfield where IDOC officials did stat that the provider of scanninh the mail would be able to profit from the information. lastly I reject the fact that IDOC will destroy our mail 6 months after its receipt I believe there are going to be legal lawsuits as IDOC will destroy our property without Due Process. (11/4/2025)

212. I believe this mail scanning effort that idoc is taking is fruitless in its attempts to prevent incoming drugs in the prison because the individuals in custody are still clearly smoking tabacco in the bathroom stalls and showers. Nothing has stopped in that area. So we arent recieving sentimenatl mail and pictures from family and friends. We also arent recieving important mail that requires us to sign or write upon the documents. Like for instence if i recieve an application that requires me to fill it out sign etc... I can't because its only being scanned to my tablet. Also, not everyones family is able to afford brand new books and can only sometimes afford used books, but now we arent left with that option either. Idoc needs to come up with a different solution to prevent incoming drugs in the prison. The mail scanning doesnt work and its putting a inconvient strain on us individuals in custody. (11/4/2025)

213. I believe this new mail program will end up delaying inmate mail, disrupting precious timelines in relation to issues where paperwork needs to be returned to solve issues outside of facilities, and also removes our right to have oir personal mail in our possession. This new procedure will cost taxpayers money thats unneccessary and the staff extra labor for copying and posting every piece of mail. Also its a clear violation of our 1st amendment rights. Mail in our facility is already grossly neglected, untimely, and poorly handled. Most mail is received well over 30 days past the postmarking. (11/4/2025)

214. I do not agree with this method for those of us that are suffering losing our rights to our physically pictures and letters. My fiancÃ©e doesn't even want to send me photos or handwritten letters anymore because I won't get those copies. She is thinking all kind of paraniod thoughts about: "What will the officers do with my pictures?" and other various thoughts about her photos safety. Sorry to say but IDOC doesn't have the most trust worthy of officers. Whenever I was in the Seg property room in Menard C.C. they had people's photos posted all over the shelves making fun and saying crude comments on some skimpy dressed women. So her thoughts aren't really to far off what I've seen amd heard.
Listen, the contraband issue is bad, I'll admit. These guys are just using the main mail though. Here are a few things that I've learned that might help combat this. First, lawyers are involved

with struggling clients that make deals with certain idividuals to send it via legal mail. Its not just "fake" lawyers involved. In Menard, a dude literally claimed that his paid lawyer was his partner. Second, train K-9 units to sniff out various roach and wasp sprays. A lot of it is a couple dollars of a can being sprayed on those papers and that is what most this fools are smoking. I heard some Kings talking about it on the yard one day how rich their family was getting off a few cans of wasp spray. Each sheet of paper is $1,000, which is absurd. Next, I understand that hardbacked books are being misused, but I am a gamer, some of the games only sell them on hardcovered. So these idiots are slowly ruining my already ruined life. Can you please instead of banning everyone from hardcover books, just ban the people that have been caught with contraband, please?

Now about the drones, there are a lot of automated drone defenses out there, also a rifle that, if memory serves, shoots an EMP type of charge or disruption that is only lethal to drones up to 1-2 miles in range. I know the state is hurting for money, but maybe get a contract from a military provider that has such defenses. Sadly I cannot remember the companies name, but Google is literally at your finger tips. Honestly, just higher me, I'll help you conter all this, because these guys are literally ruining my life over a small high!

Anyways, there is also a mix of chemicals that some workers got in Menard C.C. and other prisons, that the porters have access to that they'll soak paper in and turn around and sell it. You guys really need to crack down on all these pills the nurses give out. People literally cup them in their hands or will fake swallow them and spit them out and turn around and sell them. Even if they liquidize the pill, people will spit it out in a hifden bottle as soon as they leave the view of the nurse and COs. Sadly people will pay $20 for someone's backwashed spit to get high off their pills. Many people are fakeing their SMI status for the lesser seg times and to collect and sell psych-pills to others.

Another contraband issue is "hooch", which is easily avoidable buy banning the sell of rice, corn, jellies, hard-candies, fruit juice, soda, kethcup, and any fruits they pass out from the kitchen. Instead of giving us fruit from the kitchen nearly everyday, limit us to once or twice a week. Also, your kitchens are horribly guarded by COs that just don't care. I work on a dietary wing, stuff is stolen on all three shifts every single day. The make the hooch with, jello, jello mix, white sugar, brown sugar, jellies from the kitchen, ketchup, BQQ sauce (I know right, they're desperate), the 4oz juices we get, and can fruit juices (like peace, pinapple, etc.) and yeast, and rice products.

Listen, I know this is unorthadox, but have you ever thought of hiring an individual in custody to be your chief anti-contraband agent? Ha I know so much more. Anyways, I got off track. I am against this electronic mailing service because, no matter how much you try, without taking out the legal mail, and putting automated drone defenses in place, along with having lazy COs that honestly just don't care, or cracking down on the drug abuse by the pills provided by IDOC, you'll never stop this mess. Seriously, look into just those yellow small cold pills alone that they give to us. People over take them because the side effects! If you'd like help, ask someone on the inside. Have a good day! (11/4/2025)

215. I do not agree withd how the departmwnt os handling the mail. I think its a violation to our constitutional rights yo not be able to recieve our paper mail the way that it ia sent to us. (11/4/2025)

216. I do not appreciate any delays in my mail from my family or friends, and when i get

certificates the scanning shoukd immediately allow me copies of my transcripts and edovo certificates. The delays are not justified when 100/ other ways contraband has been proven to enter in idoc and why punish us who have nothing to do with contraband or illegal things. (11/4/2025)

217. I do not feel that it is fair that you cannot not recieve physical photos that your family have mailed you comminsary sells photo albums i in fact have two of them and now i cannot fill them with pictures of my family you guys need to be allowing pictures that come from freeprint or any other photo company to be given to us its not fair to those who dont do drugs such as myself to suffer from what other people have done it is IDOC's fault for letting drug contraband to be delivered into idoc i find the digital mail quite retarded (11/4/2025)

218. I do not like this because we don't know if any contraband is being smuggled into prison through the mail. I would argue that most contraband that enters into prison is brought in by the people employed by i.d.o.c. This is just another form of control that is the norm for i.d.o.c. The money that is being spent for these absurd measures would go further if it was being put to use in more activities for prisoners. We know that more activities for prisoners goes a lot further towards rehabilitation than keeping our mail from us. More out of cell time leads to less violence, less drug use, and better adjusted prisoners. People in prison turn to drugs because we are in our cells for long periods of time with nothing to do, this is a well known fact that is being ignored by the administration of i.d.o.c. Give us more out of cell time, give us more yard days, give us more activities and watch how fast the overall morale of individuals improves. Make it easier for our visits to come and see us, make the experiance pleasant for those who love us to come and visit us and watch how much more calm prisoners behave. We know the things that work towards rehabilitation, and we know the things that do not work towards rehabilitation. Treating prisoners as human beings leads to transformation. Treating us as less than human leads to violence and to disgruntled prisoners. Keeping our mail from us is treating us as less than human. (11/4/2025)

219. I do not like this new mail procedure.it takes to long for me to get my mail and my tablet doesnt have the capacity to hold all of my pictures.also it makes my family go thru too much to send me mail.you should go back to the old mail process
(11/4/2025)

220. I do not own my tablet. All memories will be deleted after 6 months. No copies of mail are being made..Injust received mail on my tablet yesterday fron 9-12-25. Yesterdays date was 11-4-25. If the mail is handwritten it is is nit ledgible. We cant have our mail to send out and saved. The process here is very slow and staff are incompetent. Staff have been arrested for drugs. I believe mail should go baxk to the way it was. Drugs will never go away. There are other issues that are inportant.
Such as: Logan is condemded. Dullnof black mold, women are getting beaten with padlocks, there are no sufficient cleaning supplies, the food is served cold, insects and rodent are all over, raccons and birds live in the roofs, the roofs are about to cave in and the rain comes inside.No education ir structure here at all. Staff
Curse at us. Must I go on? (11/4/2025)

221. I certainly disagree with some of the proposed changes in the mail system. Yes, a vital part of taking reasonable steps to provide for the safety and well-being of us inside is to prevent items from coming into facilities. Yet, IDOC's focus is misplaced. What "the powers that be" have forgotten is that each IDOC employee is a human being, and as such is capable of deceptive and selfish measures. Your paycheck may be adequate for you, but that might not be the case for the next person. The extra encintive of contraband pay pads the pockets and funds the extra-corricular activities of officers. A simple look at the studies conducted on the topic show that these measures DO NOT WORK. IDOC can redirect the squandered funds they'll pour into this ponzy scheme, and put them into something that actually works!! Prime example: theres no educational or job training opportunities at Menard (as with most facilities) and job opportunities are as scarce as water in the desert. When is IDOC going to focus on there purpose and mission: to REHABILITATE people to return as productive members of society. IDOC has to understand that people inside are pissed (and rightfully so), we are hurt, we are confused and longing for a chance to simply be accepted. The vast majority are ignorant; cant read, cant spell, dont have basic geography skills... Most have never been outside their neighborhoods!! Their horizions are extremely narrow. And the way that they attempt to escape this reality is to get high. The only way they can support themselves and their families is to do the only thing the know: sell drugs. If IDOC really wants to curb the drug problem inside these facilities, then a massive overhaul has to me made. Education, religion, job training, job opportunities MUST BE EXPANDED-EXPONETIALLY!! U cant expect a person to do differently that dont even know differently. If IDOC wants to curb drug use inside, then them must erradicate the culture of control and oppression, the culture of seperation and division, the culture of hate and animosity, the culture of slave and master inside every single IDOC facility. IDOC comes to Menard and halfway walks 1 gallery...although there are thousands of individuals here, its an inadequate practice cause you'll never realize the true problems nor the depth thereof. This whole mail scanning or rather mail banning, is not even a treatment of a symtom. Its a total blind eye to the etology of drug use & sale, as well as the subsequent symptoms that result. This mail banning is not a move to solve a problem, this mail banning is yet another avenue of master lording over slave..of hurt..repression..seperation. U must put yourself in our shoes. Those letters and pictures from our families contain a sentimental value that is priceless. Some of us will never hug our parents again, and that last letter from them, with their scent on it, is all the physical rememberance we have. The last comfort of our parents or family, that the outside world has free and almost unlimited access to but take for granted. What is IDOC going to do with obituaries..family pictures- especially ones coming from venders and not home. IDOC has a duty to employ the "least restrictive means possible". The reach and knowledge of Internal Affairs is vast.. IDOC has the knowledge of who is getting what inside. And instead of punishing everybody, IDOC should be selective in their endeavors and hold those, and only those, responsible- responsible. This blanket, boiler plate attempt is seroiusly detrimental to our mental health and rehabilitation. Stop punishing the whole for a fractions actions..stop punishing the many for the few. (11/4/2025)

222. I can understand idoc polcy but at some point it just becomes where we are totaly dehumanized. There are things that are going to happen the rules for the people that get caught using drugs in state prizons if they get caught being under the influace they need to have goodtime taken from them an as a part of there punishment made to take a drug class. The polcices of punishing everyone for a few breaking the rules is wrong! I know i like getting cards

from my family an the fact my parents are fighting cancer its nice to have thouse lil mommentos if something was to happen to them while im in idoc. (11/4/2025)

223. I can understand the changes to letters and mail but with pictures i dont agree with it. I believe they should let us have our photos. The photos on the tablets be looking all blury. (11/4/2025)

224. I feel it is bogus for others that are on the right path to get punished for other people doing drugs. Th Adminastration need to really do their job like the old days. A thorough check and investegation. (11/4/2025)

225. I feel as if the new mail system has gotten worser and to be honest correctional officers are still going to bring drugs in ALLEGEDLY. you cant stop something tht has more than one entry and one exit you cant prevent the inevitable (11/4/2025)

226. I dont think your mail should be screnD or put your tablet if you never had an 203 ticket for drugs (k2) or anyother drug cause thats taking away my emotional attachment to my mail and other peoples mail thats like punishing us for something we dont want a part of me personlly find that stuff to be messing up alot of things we could be getting instead of that bull stuff i dont mess with it and dont want nothing to do with it personally but it hard cause youll stick somebody in a cell with someone whos doing it and when we try to get away from it we get punished just as taking away our in-person mail to those who dont have anything or want anything to do with it cause it not our fault its getting into the prisons nor is it our doing to get it in all we want is our in-person mail cause that holds a lot more then for you to scand it and put it on our tablets (11/4/2025)

227. I dont think we should have any changes come to the mail too many adjustments that will delay the process so we ge our mail on i think it's all smoke just another way to control the system (11/4/2025)

228. I dont really like it cause the pictures our family send via mail we never will get them except via tablet and those memeories will be lost cause we have to turn in our tablet upon release. (11/4/2025)

229. I believe this whole mail-scanning is a fools endeavour, mainly due to the fact that the number of guys smoking is still the same. They are smoking the same amount as before the scanning. Second, I wouldnt have so much a problem if this only targeted mail from individual people, yet, they are scanning mail from places (In my personal exprience) like the Federal Comunications Comission. I literally have it scanned in, and as a result it blew through a deadline for a response and now I have to go through the appeals process of a federal FOIA. Secondly, I wouldn't have a problem if they allowed the small businesses and LLC's responses to come thru.
The Illinois Department of Corrections has no problem paying a few million dollars a year for this mail scanning, yet will not show the amount of mail received in the past two years at all facilities, which according to USPS (the data is posted on their website for this address) is almost 1.5 million pieces of mail. 1359 incidents is literally a statistically insignificant amount. There

needs to be a way for legitimate businesses & LLC's to be whitelisted so their mail wont be scanned.
Also, the comment period for this change in the administrative code was by law, to be BEFORE it was implemented. Thank You for hearing me. Barnassey Thomas Y-27170 Western Illinois Correctional Center. (11/4/2025)

230. I believe we should not have to recieve paper copy for our picture photos, that our people are paying to send in actual photos, paper copies are more distorted than an actual photo (11/4/2025)

231. I believe we should get our regular mail if they catch the offenders that have the contraban they shold be punished severily enough that they will tell where they got it and prosicute them (11/4/2025)

232. I belive the change in the mail is not a good idea, Every person thats incarcerated is not trying to do wrong. Some of the letters, photo's come from people in my life that maybe no longer alive and only being to have on our tablet for 6mos and thronw away forever and I did nothing wrong and being force to pay for some bad actors is carzy. I think it should be case by case,if your mail test come back drugs than lose our rigth to have our mail. Thank you for your time. (11/4/2025)

233. I do not think that scanning mail is an effective way to stop contraband from entering institutions. Contraband is mainly brought in via or in coordination with staff. Scanning mail is extra work for staff that are already stretched thin due to staff shortages and is inconvenient for us and them. The procedure for requesting a photocopy of the scanned mail is flawed; I have personally requested a photo copy of a scanned document and I have never received any response. The documents are supposed to be labeled with the name of the sender, but majority of my scanned mail is labeled "Unknown," which makes is difficult to locate the letter because they all have the same label. I prefer to hold mail in my hand so I may read it whenever I like and keep if for sentimental value if I so choose, especially cards and pictures. I think that the mail scanning is a problem for staff and individuals in custody so it should be stopped until further evaluation and analysis can be done. (11/4/2025)

234. I do not think this is a solution to the controband problem and it set a massive delay in us recieveing our mail. It took over a month to revieve a letter when it should have only taken four days tops. (11/4/2025)

235. I do not understand how this is not a direct violation of our rights as citizens of the United States of America. If the Security Control Officers and staff of the Illinois Department of Corrections were following Proper procedure and protocol and were inspecting mail correctly which is were wearing masks and gloves as they should when handling mail this wouldnt of been an issue to begin with. (11/4/2025)

236. I do think that the way that tge mail is being handle is not going to last long becouse of the way that its being done. It is taking to long for me to get my mail from my love ones. (11/4/2025)

237. I don't agree with the changes for(1),individuals in custody who have been flagged or abused the mail procedures are the individuals in cutody that shiuld be recieving mail through an alternate source not every individual in custody also we don't know who reads this mail when it comes in. (11/4/2025)

238. I dont agree with the mail change, everyone should not be punished for these inmates actions. The Letters on our tablets are not even being captured fully and we dont have wifi everywhere to access it when we want. Maybe security should do their job more and stop being lazy. (11/4/2025)

239. I dont agree with the process of scanning our mail.Since doing so our mail has been so far behind in fact not to long ago i got a letter dated Aug.14, 2025 (11/4/2025)

240. I dont agree with the whole mail being scanned because it takes so much longer to recieve it and i also dont agree with you guys denying hard covers books thanks (11/4/2025)

241. I dont agree with this change as far as pictures that are being sent in from families. It states that the pictures will delete after 6 months which is not right and totatly isnt fair to the individuals in custody. Especially for the long timers who only have the pictures to hold on to. For them to be deleted after 6 months is crazy we should be able to keep the pictures especially if theyre being sent directly from the distributor. I understand the situation with drugs and the mail but pictures is something thats all we have to hold on to (11/4/2025)

242. I dont believe this will stop anything it might slow it down this is just a hassle for everyone and not all of us are doing this stuff now we cant have the stuff our family and friends send to us (11/4/2025)

243. I dont like the rule changes to visitation no longer allowed to bring in publications. As long as they are brand new there shouldnt be a problem. CO's bring in more contraband then any other person in IDOC history. I have witnessed it on mutpile occasions. (11/4/2025)

244. I feel that we should be able to recieve all of our mail and it is violating our rights to scan mail (11/4/2025)

245. I feel this id just drops in the buckit. Look more at ur own staff bring it in. (11/4/2025)

246. I like this idea of everything being on the tablet, but I would like to be able to keep my photographs, either on the tablet and not have them deleted after 6 months or have a printed copy of the pictures my family or friends send. (11/4/2025)

247. I never had any issues with the mail ... I never had any contraband sent to me or any of that ... So honestly i feel like certain people should get their mail through the tablet ... Plus recently i got my edovo certificates sent in and now i cant get them because my family sent them through regular mail ... And i really need those papers (11/4/2025)

248. I think it's messed up how they doing the pictures (11/4/2025)

249. I think its problematic because i may need some legal papers from my family and cant get them because yall putting our mail on the tablet (11/4/2025)

250. I think its wrong to punish everyone for the crimes of the few. Why not restrict the mail of those who are caught selling or smoking drugs instead of those of us who don't mess with that stuff? I want to be able to get the physical photographs and cards that my family and friends send me instead of just having them on the tablet. Also why not consider doing an internal crime stoppers program with some kind of incentive to help smoke out (pun intended) those who are smoking that poison? (11/4/2025)

251. I FEEL THATS NOT GOING TO CHANGE ANYTHING AT ALL .ALL THIS STOP MAIL TO CHECK IT THAT'S NOT GOING TO STOP NOTHING FORREAL CAUSE STAFF WILL BRING IT IN YOU.THINK IF I OFFER A STAFF 3000 TO BRING THIS AND THAT YOU CRAZY IF YOU THINK THEY WONT SAY YEAH MY THOUGHTS JUST LET IT HAPPEN YOU TRYING TO STOP WHATS GOING ON ITS JUST GONE BRING IT IN MORE HEAVER ALOTT JUST LET WHAT HAPPEN HAPPEN IF THEY WANNA SMOKE THEY SELVES TO DEATH LET THE SHIT HAPPEN TRYING STOP IT GONE MAKE IT WORSE ITS GONE BECOME UNDECTIABLE ITS GONE GET WORSE.THAN IT IS HONESTLY THINK ABOUT IT FOR INSETENCE A HYPOTHETICALY A PERSON PAY A STAFF 6000 TO BRING TS ND MORE NOW ITS NOT PAPERS IRS PILLS CELL PHONES ND ALL THE ABOVE STOP WHILE YALL AHEAD YALL GONE MAKE IT WORSE (11/4/2025)

252. I feel thats its ok ,with the things in effect. It's the process of holding people mail for six months,and just throwing it away after six months is not ok in the lease!. I rather have my physcial mail,they should have better ways of detecting things.And that gose for the pictures,they mark everything as snap chat or filterd. And people dont get things from there love ones,and that becomes a hugh promble. Things really need to change for the better. (11/4/2025)

253. I like it the only thing i dont like is they said in 6 months it delates the mail if we have grades and certf on there i dont want them delated (11/4/2025)

254. I mean i guess its ok but i dont think it will really stop the drug problem ... Its been drugs in prison fo years and if you change one thing people just find another way and i also feel like changing the way we get mail for the people who dont do drugs its pretty bogus but im just a inmate i run nothing here and ive learned to accept so the ball is in you guys court (11/4/2025)

255. I think the mail scanning is a waste of time. Most institutions who have gone to mail scanning have reported that it has stopped Zero contraband. Additionaly the scanning of photos and only providing them electonically for six months or a reproduced paper print out robs us from the tactile pleasure of holding and shring family photos. You also limit the times we can view our mail because we can not read our mail on our tablets from 12am - 6am. The facility where I am at, people are having issues with getting physical print outs of thier mail even after sending multiple requests. Next there is the question of how IDOC will use the copies of our

mail, will the keep copies for thier own purpose and retain all our incoming mail for intel purposes. Now that our mail is being digitized by the state, what privacy controls are in place, how will it be shared, will you use it to build AI models? (11/4/2025)

256. I think there should not be no electronic mail going on ether way it go its not stopping nothing (11/4/2025)

257. I just got here in i would like to have real mail letters in pictures from my family because i counldnt get any where i was in my family couldnt talk to me so i really think taking mail away from us is not right in im speaking for the once how dont have the problems that you are saying others are doing what about the people have nothing to do with any of it i feel you cant blame everyone for others
(11/4/2025)

258. I hope these changes are only temporary. I am sick of drug dealers and hypes screwing the rest of us of our privileges. They should move ppl with a drug history thats repetitive to a different facility as this one does not have drug counsiling anymore. Yet springfield still sends them here. (11/4/2025)

259. I feel the process of the mail handling is not thought out well. Pinckneyville refuses to print photos despite directors memo saying that if we request for copies of photos printed it will be provided to us. As for the retention of original mail you dont clairfy as to what we can do in order to save the originals and if after they scan it can we provide stamped envelopes to send origibal documents/photos home or lose them. If someone had a picture of family members from a 100 years ago sent in (100 year old family heirloom photo) we arent able to send it back after it being scanned itll be destroyed (11/4/2025)

260. I really want to have the phisical letter and B-day card or whatever comes my way. We cant all be punish for something that a few people just want to mess. If they want to get high nothing will stop them. (11/4/2025)

261. I have recieved one letter since the program began, and it took a month. To stay in contact with people the state has been doing many things. This seems like a waiste ti then slow our regular mail to the point of once a month. (11/4/2025)

262. I feel that the mail should stay in the physical form due to the fact that when we do have our family and Loved ones send pictures, letters, cards, ect... It holds a more sentimental value.!! Also IDOC is trying to punish all individuals in custody for a select few and that is nor fair to the rest of the individuals in custody. (11/4/2025)

263. I feel that this change in mail is a violation of our rights to communication with our family and friends. It is not fair that we are all being punished by this administration. Our personal letters and birthday cards from family and friends,we are not allowed to keep or send back to them. Then if we do request for copies of them,they are in blk and white and on very poor quality paper. Then after 6months i can never see or read these letters again??? Thats messed up. (11/4/2025)

264. I feel we should still get our photos, after inspected of course. Because i want photos of my Granny that passed away but it becomes pointless and frustrating knowing that i can only see these photos for 6mo and cant keep them forever so i ask them not to be sent. Its unfair to those of us that have nothing illegal going on within the facilities. Mail as well, my toddlers and i communicate and bond through written letters and thats taken away and placed on a screen for 6mo instead of me being able to hold and cherish these moments and memories. For some it could be a reminder to never return to this situation. I understand the why, but that should be a step up in security not a take away for us incarcerated. (11/4/2025)

265. I forgot to mention a few things. Besides K2 coming in via legal mail, it comes in as people transfer in from other prisons and have it packed away in their papers and in Pontiac, it comes from the MSU workers passing it to our workers or yard\ gym INMATES, PRISONERS or CONVICTS. (11/4/2025)

266. I hate it because we csn no longer get a fprever copy of our mail yall only hold it for 6 months and our family can no longer get original copies of our pictures (11/4/2025)

267. I feele it is wrong, and here is why. First, if the wi-fi goes down for any reason or is having any kind of issue we are then deprived of our mail. Second, holding a peice of mail from my loved one, it allowes me to feel closer to my loved one. To feel the paper they felt, to touch the pen lines qnd feel them under my fingers gives me a feeling of closeness to them. Already the rules have serilized any mail to the max, so how and why must we give up the actual mail, that we as citizns of america a duely righted to recieve? Be cause we are inmates we are some how less than people? Oh thats right, we are truly looked down upon, and treated less than human. And it wondered why people come back to these places time and again? Has the system been truly desigened for us to leave here and not return... Only a fool wouod beleave so, once i had faith in "our" justice system. Its no longer"ours" it has failed me. I was sentanced @2 years for 50% to serve a year of that sentance. Having been set up to fail on parol,wait MSR, witch is a fake way to rename parole btw. I will have to do 3 years, on a 2 year sentance. The incarseration for profit system is a joke. Im selling my home, the home i own,and have payed 10s of thousands of dallors in just property tax on, and moving to a state where they dont want to have 2/3rds of its population locked away in prisons while striping away there rights anr humanity. (11/4/2025)

268. I get a calender from my sister every year because I cannot afford one from a outside company I do not understand why I cannot receive any more also I do Bible Studies and I get certificates and they put them on tablet also some Bible Studies send envelopes sometimes I get but sometimes I do not get any and the Bible Study says they sent them butnI do not get them (11/4/2025)

269. I get that I'm in prison so you're probably gonna say my opinion on this is biased and ignore it anyway because you're probably going to implement these changes regardless of how anyone feels because you've never been on the other side of the process but I'll speak my peace anyway because that's what this is here for, to make us feel like we are a part ot he process and we might actually matter.
I'll begin by saying that yes the publication review process needs to be changed but I believe that

the changes your department is proposing is not really the best way to go about making those changes. For one, the definition on what is considered sexually explicit needs to be defined more clearly and/or in more detail. I say this because I've had publications denied simply because it depicted two characters having intercourse but it did not show penetration or anything extremely graphic of that nature, the entire book was denied because of that page that literally showed something comparable to what you would see on broadcast television. I would say the guidelines need to be defined clearly and the staff needs to be seperate from the mailroom entirely(there is a rationale for that, we've had issues with the decisions of our mail staff here).
While the current system may have it's flaws, I believe these changes will open the door for more problems and and retaliatory actions, and we already have enough problems with the mailroom staff here at Hill CC with them unilaterally deciding what pictures we can and can't have with no higher authority to appeal to because the publication process doesn't apply to photographs, also they are backed up most of the time for whatever reason(recently it took two weeks for me to get some books i ordereed, they arrived October 7th at the facility, I didn't get them until October 21st) and you want to give them more work to do by adding publication review to their workload? Even then you've proposed placing the publication review process in the hands of so many different people and then want them to go off of a central list, I get that you are going for efficiency but your quest for that is also (once again) further restricting us individuals on what kind of publications we can recieve. It's already bad enough we can no longer recieve hard-cover books when some books are never released in paperback form, but now you want even more staff members deciding what we can and can't have based on their opinions because, don't be mistaken, they will take your guidelines and apply them in the way they see fit, and the whole books being sent to the central publication office in springfield, I had a book sent there by the publication officer here almost a year ago now because she denied it, (whatever happened to the facility level appeal process prior or me just having the option to return it to the company for a refund or send it home instead of it being automatically sent to springfield?)I still have not heard back about it and it's been so long I can't even try to get my money back for it so this whole process is already just against us individuals in custody from the start.
I'm in prison and all but I'm already being punished enough as it is, and now it feels like your department wants to make it more of a process just to get the books we want to read that we spend our own money on. (11/4/2025)

270. I had a return to sender letter that I had sent my wife, because I forgot to add my full address! Instead of returning my letter to me, it had initials IA on it, and I presume that meant Internal Affairs! Not every Individual In Custody engages in any form of violating the Law or Rules, especially a Mu'min like me! My Religion is first and my family second! No human being is without fault, not even Staff! One size does not fit all, and there is no first time for anything! You say we are Individuals, then execute the Laws and Rules accordingly! Thank you, from Mr. Eddie Robinson A10913! This concerns Mail and Publications! (11/4/2025)

271. I have an issue with changes i have already seen, suc h as banking statements, or financial institutions being posted on the tablet, because it reveals account number, social security numbers, and i file taxes every year, and i have financial statements and irs documents sent in, and that is information that should not be made available to tablet vendor or there for anyone to view, at the very least that is senitive information, and the whole rational for the new mail handling procedure is to prevent contriband from entering the facility, banks,and financial

institution should be exempt as well as irs books or forms for filing a tax return, because for obvious reasons banks, financial institution, irs forms or booklets even from a family member should be exempt, i would hope that serious considerations would be given to the issues i have raised, and the above mention materials could be handled in a separate manner, thank you for your consideration. (11/4/2025)

272. I have been incarcerated for over 25 years and housed in three IDOC facilities that all independently interprete Departmental Rules to the detriment of individuals of custody. As a "uncertified" peer educator and peer mentor, I utilize learning tools (publications) that are unconvientional with respect to the Department's understanding. I do not subscribe to boring! My peers require a unique paradigm that IDOC doesn't offer (especially in facilities located in Southern Illinois where the "Good old boys" attempt to use ignorance as a tool of fear too control individuals in custody; via use of disciplinary reports). I am someone whom the Department has deemed "rehabilitated", having scored low on the risk assessment test. I no longer have the ability to attend programs offered by IDOC because these programs are deemed accessible only to those who've scored high on that same test. I continue to learn on my own time and dime; reading various publications that pertain to comtemporary grassroots organizations, political, social and economic issues that affect my community (African-Americans) here in Illinois, as well as around the world. It's bad enough that I don't have access to news outlets that discuss what affects We the People of the State of Illinois, now I'm going to be under even more scrutiny when it comes to seeking out efficient tools to learn and stay up-to-date in current events that affect my community. The Department doesn't offer publications that reduce recidivism, individuals in custody such as myself sacrifice our time and energy to teach and ensure that our peers have a portion of the understanding to navigate and operate in a free society as better men and citizens. I fear that with the introduction of more strict Departmental Rules, pertaining to accessing various publications under the guise of "chemically laced paper" perpetuates more harm than good (especially when other States who've adopted similar policies have continued to experience and even exceeded past statistis of exposure to "chemically laced paper and other dangerous substances). (11/4/2025)

273. I have family members who are Christian faith people and a few who are Pastors. They have sent me books to help me grow as a person in my faith. This new change is now a hinderance, which i understand the issue of others who misuse incoming mail. But as for some like me and my family, we never have and never will misuse what has helped me grow as a person who is learning to become someone worthy of a second chance at life. (11/4/2025)

274. I have important mail which has been mailscanned into my tablet yet, I am unable to have copies printed due to the unavailibility of the proper form that IDOC have yet to approve. I am currently in the middle of a civil litigation and pressed for time due to a deadline set by the judge and these documents that have been mailscanned to my tablet are critical to my litigation. Why would this mailscan process be utilized by staff knowing that requested print copies of these documents would not be fulfilled at this point without the appropriate form? This is a major issue in need of modification,especially being that said scanned mail are subject to being discarded after a specified time frame. I think that before mail is scaned to our tablets that everything needed to be able to allow us to print copies of stated mail should be established as well. (11/4/2025)

275. I have major concerns as a pro se litigant in that i need affidavits from cilvilian witneses to go with post conviction petitions and i need the oringinals ,not copies for the court per the court rules.the other amendents is par for the course of prison. (11/4/2025)

276. I have picturs of my dead wife and dead pet stuck in the mail room. I have reuqueted a copy of those but have been ignored. The network always goes out on the tablet. This is the 6 th time i tryed to write this. About to give the tablet back to proptery so i wont get held accountable for this junk thing. My wifes picturs will be destoryed in 5 months 2 weeks after that i will never get to have my wifes picturs. This new system sucks. (11/4/2025)

277. I Know We Need All Are Support About The Mail Problems In Life, We Need The Mail In Paper Form About Are Family Because We Will Lose All The Mail In The Amount Of Months Right Now, We Should Have All Are Mail Longs As We Need For Support From Are Family, Because We Might Need The Letter For The Judge And Laywers, Or Court, Helping Out Are Case About Are Life, Family, Love Ones, And Friends, Or Kids, Or Best Friend, We Need All We Can Get It This Prison For The Most Part In Life For Support Ryan Oneial Mason M30966
Menard C. C. (11/4/2025)

278. I knowest everytime I get a letter from one of my friend, who writes 4-5 pages I don't get it all, at least one page is missing, and I have to send kite to mailroom to rescand it, but happens everytime. Also I would like to know what happens to our letters when our tablets get full? It only holds 15 letters. And why are not the letters in order, i might get one on top and then one in midle, or dottom, if i dont answer them right away the one at the top will i lose it? And one last thing i been get "our daily bread " Devotional through the mail, for over 10 years and sence the mail started being on tablet, I yet to get it, why is that? (11/4/2025)

279. I personally do not like te change in mail protocols. I like and prefer my physical mail. I should have quite a bit of mail i should have already received, but due to this change, it ha delayed me from receiving any of my mail. Ive also not received responses when i inquire information regarding any correspondence of mine. (11/4/2025)

280. I really dont understand why yall trying to keep peoples mail and photos and copy it to them everyone not's doing it but yall holding everyone accountable for which is wrong i havent seen my mail scents last month and today is a new month i have loved ones keep asking me is im getting my mail yall need to just wholed the ones accountable thats doing it if someone sending them contraband yall have to come up with some like a new charge that a stop peoples from trying to get stuff in. (11/4/2025)

281. Having the physical form of letters and cards and pictures does something mightygood to a persons feelings and phyche. I believe it plays a tremendous roll in a persons life. It makes some want to do any and all things that they could in order to get home sooner. There is nothing like a tangible object i.e. the pictures we get. The cards are a morale boost to people. They take their time and effort to put their feelings onto those page. (11/4/2025)

282. I get where they're coming from on the one hand, yet on the other hand for the majority we like and in a sense need to feel, touch, and smell the people and world outside of this stankin place in which we reside. It's bad enough not receiving our mail in a timely matter but with scanning it's taking even longer. For the most part the system has ways to know those that are the ones more likely to do these illegal things, so why not just target them as a consequence to their prior actions. If necessary and others pop up on the radar then add them ti to list. It would save time and money the same as other things could.
There's alot more I'd like to add on many things and problems within these walls this is the basis of my thought on this situation. If you have other subjects that may come up. Thank You (11/4/2025)

283. â€œThis Is Not A Great Or Good Way Of Helping Us.
I Understand The Need To Protect Us.
But Like Today, November. 4. 2025, My Uncle (My
Father's Brother)..,
He Died Today. And I Want The Obituary, The Actual
Obituary,
(â€œAnd Now I Can't Have Itâ€□), And Thats Add To My
Trauma, My Depression, (&) My Pain.
Because He Was A BIG PART OF MY LIFE. HE OWNED
HIS OWN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY (&) WAS GOING
TO GIVE ME A JOB WHEN I CAME HOME!!!
He Helped Pay For My Lawyer, And Helped My Mom To
Make Sure I Was Okay Financially.
HE WAS MY FATHER (&) UNCLE!!! HE WAS MY ROCK. (11/4/2025)

284. After years of incarceration, I still dislike being penalized for others actions ! Mail has sustained my emotiinal and mental well being for the past 3 decades. My mail has sentimental values to me. Also, most facilities already have issues getting our mail to us in a timely manner. This scanning process will only prolong it more. Plus, what's to happen when our young children and grand children send us pictures they drew especially for us? How do we get to keep that? This bill does nothing to save lives or impede anything. All it does is validate the correctional officers doing less work. (11/4/2025)

285. All though i do understand the purpose of the scanning of mail to try to deter the drugs from coming into the prisons. It is very inconvient to thoes that have nothing to do with drugs. For example the mail system here at graham is already a month to a month and a half behind. Now it takes longer to receive our mail due to the scanning system. Also we were told here at graham that the pictures we receive on our tablets will not be scanned onto quality paper like we were told they would be when we received a memo from the director. So our pictures will sit on our tablets for 6 months and then dissaper. Thats not fair to thoes of us that have nothing to do with drugs. Were not even sure if they will make photocopies of our letters for us. Letters from our loved ones are very important to us. People pass away and all we have to hold onto there memories are the letters and pictures. My daughter is the most important thing to me in this world and to not be able to have pictures of her in my posesion or to not be able to look back beyond 6 months and be able to read a old letter from her is heartbreaking. The memo from the

director says one thing but we are being told another here at graham. I dont know what the other prisons are doing or not doing. As i said earlier i get it of what is trying to be done but at the same time its hurting thoes that follow the rules. (11/4/2025)

286. Although i understand the dilemma about the paper drugs, i don't think mail restriction is the solution. Other states that switched to mail scanning to combat the drug problem still had/have drug issues. Personally, i recently lost-due to shake down-the last letter written by my grandmother, along with decades worth of irreplacable obituaries. Those items were never returned, and they're irreplacable. Physical paper mail have sentimental value, which scanned mail fail to capture. Just recently i received a message on a post card, which allegedly had some paint or was stained. But instead of just being scanned, it was restricted? Why not just scan it? I'm not a fan of scanned mail, it has no connection, and its temporal. Its too troublesome logging in and searching for documents. The process is to long too, its delayed and is a unnecessary waste of revenue. (11/4/2025)

287. Although illegal drugs are a threat to the safety and security of all facilitys for ILDOC, mail is a personal right, privilege, and property that should be protected. Photo copys are not the same and takes away from the significance, the beauty, the meaningfulness, the joy, the right of receiving mail in person. (11/4/2025)

288. As a inmate that doesn't have a lot of family left not gettin physical mail is disheartening to me. My only parent left my mother has stage 4 cancer so i wont get another letter or card from her now. I have never had a infraction of the IDOC rules and yet i'm being punished like i've done something wrong. The people that actually have had mail infractions should be punished not the whole population. (11/4/2025)

289. As far as mail coming to us on our tablets go this is all fine and dandy until it isn't one of the only ways people can stay in contact with their people is through written correspondence having pictures of outlr loved ones something physical on picture paper is a way we as individuals in custody live through and for our family and loved ones stripping us of our constitutional right to have pictures and handwritten correspondence brings us personal satisfaction and sentimentalities then with legal or privelaged mail it can no longer be considered privelaged if its being scanned and sent to us via tablet from our assigned institutions mail rooms when its supposed to by law and state legislature and statues that privelaged mail is tovbe opened in front of the individual in custody and checked in front of us for contraband only via tablet it is no longer privelaged and then i have recieved another persons mail to my tablet which i informed the proper staff of and went through the proper channels to have that mail removed off my tablet and sent to the right individual in custody and a month later is still in my postal documents even though a greivance has been filed by me thank yoi for your time with all due respect. (11/4/2025)

290. As to the new rules regarding mail well isnt our copies if we ask for them suppose to be in color? Because at western il cc they are not. Why? Also the need for digital mail is not going to help when at least here at western the last time a big thing with contaband was due to a staff employee bringing it in. Also it is bad for our mental health not to be able to hold mail from our loved one. I dont think it is actually going to stop anything. This has been going on since the start of prisons. No matter what you do it is still probally going to go on. (11/4/2025)

291. Comments? I assume your asking what i think of the mail situation, since there was no question. I think its absurd! One of the main things about mail is the nostalgic aspect of having something a loved one touched. That cant be replaced by a digital image on a screen that you will delete in 6 months! You are even unwilling to make paper copies of the letter. You also dont have the equipment to make quality copies of our photos. A simple copy on an ordinary sheet of paper isnt enough. These should be done on high quality glossy PHOTO paper and the originals sent back to our families. It is obvious that you are punishing the many because of the few. A practice that is unsound at best. I also question why no mail carriers outside of the prison system have been made ill by the drugs on the mail. This seems an extreme measure poorly thought out and cheaply done to lessen a work load. Untill you provide quality copies of both mail and photographs in a timely manner this will remain an ongoing source of friction for all involved (11/4/2025)

292. Even though i understand why IDOC is making these changes to the mail protocol, some individuals in custody look forward to receiving physical mail from their loved ones. Receiving a photo copy of the incoming mail isnt the same as having it in our hand. (11/4/2025)

293. Every individual shouldnt be punished or held accountable for another incarcerated individual that smuggle contraband inside any prison.this is unfair to the individuals that are walking a straight line and doing good.taking our love ones physical correspondence away from us is doing damage to our mental health.our love ones write us so we can have a part of them when they write letters to us. (11/4/2025)

294. Excuse me springfield i am not one to really bother but this is a subjuct i feel and obviosly the people of at least edovo feel that needs the oppinions of the individuals effected i feel we are a victum and our families are victimized by this new change to mail too i had to painfully and heartbreakingly tell my loved ones to not send me any mail which is one of few ways of showing they care while incarcerated and having a letter is 100% different then a photo or a text of what the letter said on the tablet and im not the only one that feels that way and alot of people feel that since we are incarcerated that we are being targeted and i feel like this mail getting copied and put on tablets is to solve a very slim issue when there is so much that can be focused on that would improve the livelyhood of inmates everywhere but those types of issues are quickly ignored but back to the mail ... Not only does it victimize the inmates that would recieve the mail but it also vitcimizes the senders who want their loved ones to recieve the mail whom are innocent and not of this very very slim number of people that just want their loved ones to feel loved and to have a physical representation of theyre affection but with all that said hopefully this digital mail thing will pass i hope that this get read by many people and we can have this digital mail changed back
(11/4/2025)

295. First I believe it's important to get physical mail b/c some items such as cards, letters, and photos from our parents, grandparents, and children are in many cases keepsake items. For many in the same/similar situations as myself; we have life/defacto life sentences and will never again have the opportunity to hold a card, etc. from a loved one. That's pretty tough to think about. Mentally it's heartbreaking. Secondly, the scanning of mail won't stop drugs from coming in to

an institution. I've been incarcerated for many, many years, and drugs have always been available in prisons. By scanning mail you may be stopping ONE way drugs come in but you'll never stop ALL drugs from coming in. In essence, those of us who follow the rules will once AGAIN be punished for the few rule breakers. Lastly, what is going to happen to the mail/photos sent in by family and friends? The new rule only states that the mail would be held for a minimum of six months...then what? Thank you. (11/4/2025)

296. First off they didnt have the capacity to pass out mail before the mail scanning was put it place. Before the mail scanning they couldnt even pass out pictures properly. It was a constant issue of people recieving other peoples pictures. This only slows the process down and my facility doesnt even abide by the rules because the printouts from the mail are in black am white not color. This only slows the process down an complicates an already ineffective system. It doesnt allow you to keep pictures that are priceless. Printouts are not the same at all compared to a photo and digital copies of all messages,mail and photos delete after 6 months. Its fucked up (11/4/2025)

297. Getting PysicalnLetters Mean Alot Because They Come From That Special SomeOne,Mom,dad,Sibilings,kids Wife,Etc,So Yes Physical mail is Wanted and Needed (11/4/2025)

298. Go back to regular. Rather have my pictures in hand (11/4/2025)

299. Honestly Im not a fan of mail on my tablet a photo copy of the things my kids make me is not the same as having whatever it was they had made me same!
(11/4/2025)

300. Horrible idea. I like to hold my letters cause you never know when a loved one might pass away and a letter might be all i have left and then after 6 months it gets deleted. (11/4/2025)

301. For me i truly beleave that we should get our mail handed to us in hand.Being locked up i enjoyed getting my hand written letters from my loved ones and birthday and holiday cards also.I have heard from others that when receiving letters that some would be cut off short and have trouble receiving rest. When receiving legal mail i heard it might take little extra time do to them copying and applying to the tablet for us to get.i truly believe we should go back to regular mail and i hope you guys consider it.Thany you for taking time and reading my comments (11/4/2025)

302. I don't like it. It is not the same as reading it first hand. (11/4/2025)

303. Having a really hard time reading letters and family photos a very sentmental to people and not being able to receive those photos as far as mental health is by far going to cause low merale in the prison population in th long one
(11/4/2025)

304. Having physical mail is in my mind something that I as an inmate charish. It lets me know that someone is thinking of me. And to have that taken away because guys want to get

high with drugs on their mail is very dissapointing. I think they will still get it in through legal mail, and now i have to suffer for others misdeeds. I got a card on the tablet after 1 month wait and it was cut off from me seeing the entire card so i couldnt read what was all wrote. The people doing this process should try to think about what (11/4/2025)

305. Honestly the department of idoc takes so much from the inmates having the physical mail from of loved one is very important giving us a copy of a letter from ur kids or a drawing is no substitute to the real thing i wish prison was more about rehabliltation and less about retaliation correctional officers were faking falling out saying they were exposed to fentanol as someone who has extinsive experience with drugs let me tell you if you think you are just going to pass out and come back to work after 3 or 4 days of paid time off from a fentanol overdose ur and idiot if u ingest or are exposed to enough for u to fall out like that ur not getting back up trust me ive had many friends die from fetanol the officers wanted the time off or as correctional officer baker at menard correctional center put it "3 days with my feet kicked up" im tired of menard correctional center after i gave information to I/A officers that compromised my saftey i was told i would get a transfer it never happend so now i refuse housing and stay in segregation cuz several gangs have a monetary amount they are offering for someone to kill me im in fear for my life from the officers as well correctional officers assaulted me and i told I/A officer wooley who was supposed to give me a voice stress analysis test and instead protected the correctional officers who assaulted me and made sure i was in an unsafe situation i fear from my life in this prison menard correctional center is activley trying to kill me i want a Keep seperate from order placed between myself and correctional officer baker i want a keep seperate order placed between myself and I/A officer wooley who lied and told me to give her information in exchange for a transfer then shortly after the correctional officer came on the gallery and told inmates i was a snitch and had just became an informant for I/A my life is in jeopordy here im making this record so after something happens to me those accountable can be held for their actions (11/4/2025)

306. Honestly, I do not believe that IDOC or the director or any person in control or opinion of the rule changes have taken into consideration the significance/value or sentimental value that certain things delivered in mail may hold, such as obituaries, pictures or letters directly from our children, elderly or sick family members. I do not agree with contraband being mailed into the prison facilities but that just means IDOC needs to upgrade their technology. This is prison so guys are going to always try to find new ways to be criminals, but that shouldn't prevent everyone from connecting with our loved ones directly or from receiving things that holds value. Also, everybody doesn't have a support system that is financially stable (which also hasn't been taken into consideration) so it's easier to send books that they already own instead of buying and ordering new ones. Its easier to print pictures at home or Walgreens or the library then to use a picture printing company. And its more affordable for alot of people. Some people support system is their parents or grand-parents who may not be tech savvy. I do not believe those people or the children were taken into consideration. Yes, I do understand that the mail will be updated on our tablets, but it'll delete in 6 months, how fair is that? What about greeting cards that our loved ones sends? Yes, it says that we can request copies of our mail but that takes away the sentimental value of the mail which interrupts our connections with our loved ones. Also, how long will that last before IDOC start charging us for those copies? Also, it'll be unfair for our family to spend money on photos that we'll only receive a paper copy of which will eventually

get destroyed because thats what happens to things that are photocopied, they diminish. Also, alot of people in prison take outside classes and courses and that would be almost impossible to do with our mail being interrupted. (11/4/2025)

307. Horrible thing to do with the mail in the tablet we should be able to receive our mail is very important to us as it comes from our family or love ones we should be able to have our letters as long as we want & have the original mail like letters pics etc. So we could be able to keep them for a lifetime or as we wish. (11/4/2025)

308. How can you all take someone photos and post them for 6months when photos are meant to last for a life time. The same goes for letters that are keep sakes, these means more to us than you are willing to comprehend. A lifer. (11/4/2025)

309. I feel mail should go back to being passed out physically due to sentimental value the item can hold. (11/4/2025)

310. I feel that sentimental cards pictures and letters that we getshouls not bw stop because people loss people ans those are the things that keep them at peace (11/4/2025)

311. I feel that physical mail is important because its connection to the personality of a loved one and creating sentament. Digital mail isnt forever and often gets deleted and or can dissapear from glitches and technacal difficulties. There is no cloud t store our mail personally. (11/4/2025)

312. How many of you that are reading this have kept an item, no matter how insignificant the item may have been solely because of who the item either belonged to or came from? By you not allowing us to have the mail that personally came from the people we care about you are taking that from us, you are severing one of the last remaing physical ties we have left to us. Imagine yourself in this situation for a moment. Your mother, father, your grandmother, grandfather, your child sends you a letter, the last letter, that they are able to send to you, would you rather have the letter they held or a meaningless copy. It may not matter to you, after all we are just criminals, convicts, crooks, the dregs of society to most of you, it may not even matter to alot of those that are incarcerated, but to those of us that it does matter to, it matters a great deal. I get the issues that you are having with the contraband within the mail system but there are other solutions that can be used to not take yet another thing from us. (11/4/2025)

313. I Dont Get Mail So It Honestly Doesnt Bother Me. But For People Who Do I Believe Its Wrong Because Those Pictures And Mail Was Actually Touched By Peoples Loved Ones. And For The People Who Have Long Sentences Who Wont Recieve The Mail. Those People May Not Get To Hug Or Touch Their Families. So The Pictures And Mail Hold Sentimental Touch And Love Peoole May Not Get On A Copied Picture On A Tablet. (11/4/2025)

314. I am a mother of a correctional officer, and even if that wasn' t the case, i pray that all CO' s are safe and blessed. But taking our mail away from us, especialy pictures of our loved ones and Bible studies will be a great loss, the bad people will always find a diffrent way to

commit crimes. I really believe that a traind dog to snif drugs and repedadly walk through the house units, be present when visitors are coming to prisons... etc will solve some of the drugs coming to individuals in custody. Or at least aloud our family to send pictures through assing busnisses that will delelop and send pictures. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to have our say. May the Lord our God multiply your blessings, keep you safe and give you His peace Hav a happy and blessed thanksgiving!! (11/4/2025)

315. I am really not thrilled with the idea of my loved ones taking the time to hand write my personal mail which to me is a treasured piece of mail, whether it be a letter, or card. And then your going to scan it and letting me see it on a tablet screen? To me this is another way to further seperate me fom my loved ones. Im doing 21 yrs. In idoc. Ive already lost my mother, my father is 76. God forbid anything happens to him. My letters and cards from my mom are my most cherished posessions. Along with the rest of my paper mail from other family members. With 13 yrs. In and 8 to go. And a clemency petition which has been pending for 4 almost 5 yrs. How many more things will be taken from me before I am released? This is all very upsetting (11/4/2025)

316. I dont want my mail being taken ,loved ones real hand writing in true form of being written means so much ,esp if someone dies, try only interacting with your baby through zoom (11/4/2025)

317. I am not in favor of scaning the mail and putting it on the tablet. I would like to have the actually letters, pictures and cards that my friends and family send me. I do not think it is right or fair thatyou would take this away from me. (11/4/2025)

318. I as well as others who arent gonna complain think this new rule is rediculius not only doing it this way is it gonna take even longer then it already takes us to get our mail. Mail is a mental thing as well as a physical thing no one wants a card there parents send them copyed on paper etc (11/4/2025)

319. I believe taking away the original copy of our mail kinds of dehumanizes us in a way.Things such as greeting cards with outpr loved ones hand writing,knowing the personally took the time out to sit there and write in that card is personal.To receive a copy of that printed out on a regular sheet of paper dont hold the same value.Or better yet i have another example,my brother has passed away and i cant even receive a copy of his obituary because of the mail policy.Yes i understand its been a real problem within these walls,im someone whos been incarcerated 11years and ive seen a change over the course of the last few years with whtever these guy are engaging in.I personally have never been effect by it,iknow of staff that has walked on a unit where it was said to be contaminated with whatever may be goin on amd they will say that due to them being exposed it has played a health factor to them,but not any individual in custody that has been on that same unit who does not engage in such activity get health complications due to being exposed.I believe it was a way for certain staff to try and captalize off the situation and an excuse for them to do away woth our physical mail.Other states that has tried this policy has said it did not increase the safety of their institutions.I think the policy needs to be deeply reviewed and the people should take into consideration the humanity aspect of this whole ordeal.There is nothing mpre personal then an original copy of a letter from a loved one with

their ink pen and their personal touch to that same paper that you may be holding! Please look at all aspects of this matter please!!!Thanks to all involved in this! (11/4/2025)

320. I believe that the mail should go back to how it was being on the tablet it stops thr emotional connection that a hand wrotr letter does also since it has changed to being on the tablet i have not recieved any of my mail my child has wrote me every 2 weeks and since this change ive got nothing from her or evem from my friend who said she sent me something. This is even for 2 people that i know here one his grandmother sent him a card over a month ago he is still yet to recieve it. Anothrr person his mother sent him photos over 2 months he has still not recieved anything . and the mail was stoped due to (drugs) well from my years of being in prison and listing to people ""anyone can go online get a header from a law office and print it on paper and send thr stuff in"" thats how it worked it bmrcc when i heard people talking about it and maybe just cuz people assume the staff members dont dur anything wrong they are just as guilty about stuff when money is involved. Maybe the people that are falling out over it should be investagated not everyone punished and f.y.i u dont fall over and pass out from 2nd hand smoke like (some staff) does it takes inhailing a mass amount of the drug to do that people like to over react from time off and free money i could go on but as the state see it (im a stupid inmate who knows nothing) maybe check staff not punish inmates (11/4/2025)

321. I disagree with the changes. If there are family members that write or send a card and pass away, there is never a true replacement for the real thing. Its a sentimental item that no copy could ever replace. (11/4/2025)

322. I dont like that we are not going to have our actuall mail. Im doing de facto life sentence and getting and being able to keep my cards and letters from my family is important, especially for my mental health. (11/4/2025)

323. I dont like it to be honest its not the same as the real pictures or letters that really mean stuff to us and hold value in our hearts some people dont know how to use the internet to even send stuff off there (11/4/2025)

324. I Believe This New Mailing System Is An Horrendous Act. When Us Individuals In Custody Receive Mail From Our Family And Friends We Like To Feel That Connection With Them. Thats By Holding The Same Pieces Of Paper, Pictures, Books, Magazines, Etc That They Held On To. This New Mailing System Is An Disgrace And Diabolical Act. (11/4/2025)

325. I Disagree With This New Change Of Policy , I Believe It Allows (IDOC) The Department To Be Able To Use Modifications On Are Love Ones Mail . By Changing The Message From Are Love Ones. To Create A Advantage On An Inmate Psychological Understanding And Be Able To Control How An Inmate Understands What There Love One Really Want To Communicate To Them & Have An Major negative impact on There Behaviour For An Favorable Out-Come For The Department ,. by using Technology \ Modify Techniques To Change The Sender Message . Why Do I Feel This Way Because Its Has Been Done To Me Already . Also You Take The Personalization \ Connection Away When You Stop In-Coming Mail From Coming In To IDOC To Its Residents. You Take Away The Personal Connect That There Sender Created . The Hand To Hand Touch Of The Letter . The Fact That At One Point

This Letter Was At My Home with My Wife \ Husband Took The Time To Put There Thoughts In This Letter And Its Now In My Hands . The Same Paper . You Dont Get That With An Tablet Or Electric Mail . I Believe The IDOC Should Find Different Ways To Handle There Drugs in Mail Problem another way with out Taking Away The Personalization Of In-Coming And Out-Going Mail . (11/4/2025)

326. I do not agree with the mail scanning process, because it takes away from us having originals when we leave, and its unjust that our originals be held for 6mnths and then destroyed, because many of us may not be able to replace what has been thrown away, our mail is protected by a federal law (11/4/2025)

327. I completely understand the purpose of the mail situation. But I feel differently concerning cards and pictures because to Incarcerated Individuals they mean alot more for their emotional and mental wellbeing. Especially when your doing hard time. (11/4/2025)

328. I do not like the fact that the only things that our family sends us like cards and letters will be put on the tablet. Just to be able to hold and feel the cards or letters that smell like home is what gets me through my time. Plus this facility is so slow with everything that im not even getting my mail at all that has been sent to me. Logan cc does not care if we get our mail at all. (11/4/2025)

329. I do not like the mail change the thought of reciving a copy on the tablet instead of the actual copy defeats the whole excited feeling of looking foward to the letter not to mention it delets after 6 months i have more than 6 months left what if i want to read the letter again because it came from someone who has god forbid recently passed or reading it because it comes from someone who provides you with with great mental or emtional assistants in time of a mental or emotional crisis witch can happen alot when incarcerated and cannot get acess to it in time and has a mental breakdown witch could lead to worse things one of the many reasons why i do not like the change over all there could be better time efforts and resources put towards better things within the justice and prison systems that can further better the prison and justice sysyem they could focus on to better things within the system (11/4/2025)

330. I do not like the proposed mail changes because it takes away the originality of the mail our family, and/ or other support systems are sending us. I unserstand the reason in which these changes are being implemented, but disciplinary actions should just be given to individuals who are caught doing such things through proper investigation. Taking into consideration we are held up inside, and away from our family for long periods of times in dungeon like environment with bad ventilation systems, it'll be nice to be able to continue to get a card or letter in its original handwritting with our loved ones scent on it. It makes us happy, and fell loved; remembering the good times with them. These things motivate a person to do better, giving them great determination to do what is neccessary in order to come home. (11/4/2025)

331. I dont really like the changes to the mail because i feel like it makes letters that family and friends write less personal. However, the fact that the pictures are actually printed on picture paper is really nice. (11/4/2025)

332. I dont perferre to have my mail from my family to be put on my tablet because my mail is personal to me, whos to say if somethng was to happen to my loved ones & my personal mail that i received from them would be all that i have of them & now you want to take that away from me as well (11/4/2025)

333. I belive not only is it wrong that we are getting our paper mail taken away, considering the facts for some people including myself, i am far from home due to lack of bed space in the doc physical mail has more meaning and helps me feel more connected to my family because i have a sensory issue due to me having severe mental health issues an me having the actual physcal copy helps me understand better an knowing that its not a copy on a tablet or photo copy helps. Also the fact that my people pay for pictures to be sent in just for them to be uploaded to a tabelt is wrong an by il doc doing this is violating our rights for our mail an should not continue any more. Its bad enough that some of us including myself our stuck in prison with no rehabilitaion due this 85% aka truth in sentecing so for some us physical mail is our only thing we look forward to to help us during our time we sit here and wait for our next chance to get school or redo the tabe test etc
(11/4/2025)

334. I do not think this was such a great idea. Though i know it has its purposes, i received mail from someone who has since then passed on and i cant have the last letter /correspondance that they wrote me. I understood i couldnt have it while here but for memorial sentimental reason i wanted to take it home with me and got told no. I feel like i have been denied proper grieving possibilies . (11/4/2025)

335. I do not want the mail to be sent on a tablet it's not right to not be able to hold and read something someone wrote to you. (11/4/2025)

336. I don't agree with the policy of scanning all incoming personal mail. My mother, grandparents, and nieces arent tech savvy, so my communications with them usually comes in the form of greeting cards and drawings, these ate keepsakes that I will forever be able to grab and hold onto after they're deceased and have grown up. There's no way to recreate these items and even when scanned, I wont have access to them forever. I understand there's an ongoing issue w/ contraband entering through mail, but the proposed rule change is extreme, there has to be a more reasonable remedy other than denying indivisuals like myself who have alot of time(90 years @ 100%) access to valuable keepsakes. (11/4/2025)

337. I dont believe everybody should be a part of this. You took my origenal copy and are giving me a scand copy which dose not have the same sentamental value. For instance my grandma who is in her 70's has just started writing me and to have the origenal copy in her hand writing mean's a lot to me. (11/4/2025)

338. I dont believe it is fair that we wont receive our hand written mail from family. Some of us our in here for life ao being able to have a keepsake from family member ia something important. (11/4/2025)

339. I dont like the new rule because I like getting physical pictures and keeping them to look

at whenever I want to. Also gettin physical mail hits the soul. Knowing your loved one touched the letter and now I get to touch it feels almost like touching your love one. (11/4/2025)

340. I dont like this because receiving mail your loved ones took time to write in your possession means alot to you. Also not being able to receive your pictures personally is a stressful thing as well. (11/4/2025)

341. I fell it takes the lobe away from the orignal ... (11/4/2025)

342. I guess i will miss the physical mail just out of letters by family who have died and i cherished them (11/4/2025)

343. I think its keeping incarcerated people from letters an cards from there loved ones (11/4/2025)

344. I think its not the same.....what i mean by that is for instance, on my birthday i was sent cards. Cards that i wont ever hold, see, or have. (Atleast not without a fee at some point.) And although there on the tablet, its only there for a limited amount of time. But, i also see why this change was made. I understand it, just dont totally like it. (11/4/2025)

345. I think its wrong i cant get a real letter from my family some way to feel close u guys took that away i got 25 years to do and now ill never get a letter when my kid grows up old to write me thats wrong thank u for reading this
(11/4/2025)

346. I think on some mail i undersand but like cards and pictures is something more personal to us. (11/4/2025)

347. I think personally that we should get our mail regulary because my kids draw and write me and thats personal meaning to me (11/4/2025)

348. I lost my mom&dad in the last year.An now my family are comeing across old photos that i would like to have? Once the prison scans the photo the photo is destroyed? I sent mail to my family an messed up the adress an i did not get the mail back to resend out the request sent back said ones mail scaned it can't be resent? The mail came from here? I don't understand this. Thank U for your time Mr.Lenzy#B67521.4a,30. (11/4/2025)

349. I love to have the hard copy and to be able to hold it and reread it when i can. Its different to me (11/4/2025)

350. I personally do not like scaned mail it is impersonal and i miss getting greeting cards to see my mothers handwriting to hold it in my hand. Pictures and mail should be the old way if drugs are coming in facilities its because of staff not the mail. Officers should be inspecting mail properly and letting us get our mail and cards. Scanning mail is not the same thing and of poor quality. (11/4/2025)

351. I think it is wrong because i dont get that much mail and i cant get what my family and friends want to send me because our mail is scaned now (11/4/2025)

352. I think that you should keep the regular mail because my family sent alot of art and you guys are messing it up.
I would appreiate if you don't change the mail alot of people are having the same problem. (11/4/2025)

353. I think the mail should stay the same most people want there mail in paper to smell there love sense its better that way (11/4/2025)

354. I think the new changes are not needed because we cant feel the love from our mail a copy does not work at all (11/4/2025)

355. I think we neee our mail. I understand that the department wants to stop all drug trafficking but some people don't have ennough money to keep getting picture sent and also we need the original letter writing, causs it makes us feel lile humans still. We already lost a lot of rights, please dont take another one. (11/4/2025)

356. I personally believe its outrageous because what are people supposed to do if theh have a loved one thats only means of communicating is through mail and that is sentimental value , but these people obviously dont care about anything anyone has going on inside these walls its preposterous. I understand the chemicals on the paper but why not just implement another factor of authentication ? Because there is always ways around what IDOC is trying to impose , now staff will bring in drugs like the old days is that what IDOC truly wants? More corruption? Sounds like it , turn your c/o's and counselors and teachers into drug mules because they dont get paid enough and they sympathize with us in here and show us empathy , what is someone supposed to do with 100 years and no support system ? Not finna lay around broke I tell you that. Keep the mail or the corruption will get worse, there will be more drugs and more overdoses because temporarily there will be a damper on the drugs but they will be back and when they come back a lot of people will die because its been a while since they had their fix and people are stupid they think they can do the same shit they was doing when the mail was still around. Also just sell or administer marijuana on commissary there will be significantly less fights , make more money off commissary and people only goals will be work , school and stay out of trouble to make it to store to get some bud thats the only 2 solutions. Keep mail or sell weed at store otherwise its going to get worse. The world works in mysterious ways , the more you try to stop something it will only get worse do yall not understand physics or the laws of the universe? Yall people amaze me every fucking day , make billions in revenue yearly off peoples misery and families and yall IQ like a fucking sparrow its like (-35 IQ) cant even think past go or the end of yall nose , yall position was handed to yall sadly , never earned thats why you people are sick and get off seperating people as much as they can from the world , soon there will be a revolution against the prison system and there will be no more institutions cause its inhumane and neglect at its finest. Have a good day bitches , let me out early or yall going to regret it immensely , or else..
(11/4/2025)

357. I just believe this change is only going to affect the relationships between people incarcerated and that with there loved ones,going out of there way to send photos,letters,and books. (11/4/2025)

358. I feel thats all we really gotvis the orginal mail from our families that prilivage should not be taken from us ,that something pesonal from our loved ones that we cherish. (11/4/2025)

359. I know it wont chang anything but nothing beats a hand written letter that is not a copy (11/4/2025)

360. I have not noticed any change. But I do not find that it solves the institutions problems of drugs. They have not found a way to prevent staff from illegal doings, obituaries should not count because they are of sentimental value. Kids drawings are of personal effects. This purposed "solution" does not solve anything it adds stress to individuals in custody, creates more complications for staff, more waiting to have mail scanned in which has everyone envolved disoriented. (11/4/2025)

361. I have one concern related to childrens drawings and writings in crayon, colored pencil, or other medium including pens and pencils, but the original drawings and an inmates ability to touch, see and feel something that his or her children actually created means the entire world to an inmate and does wonders for the persons consciousness of guilt associated with this seperation. I believe photocopying such things will onky serve to disconnect one further from the familial bonds and connections to loved ones especially children that can only serve as an anti-recidivist measure in any normal person in custody. It was these carxs and letters along with drawings and pictures that seen me through this incarceration of twenty years. I feel without that connection to my children Idve been lost in here. Not only that, but when Im released and show my kids I kept each and every drawing, letter, story, etc in their original form I can only imagine what that might do to reconnect our family. Therefore Im skeptical about inmates losing this essential connectiity. Thank you. (11/4/2025)

362. I feel that the changes are unecessary, how many more employees is the state gonna have to hire in order to scan every piece of paper and provide training to electronically post them on an app. How many errors will result from improper training, how many times will peiples mail be delivered to the wrong individuals? Not to mention your now digitizing personal handwritten letters and pictures. Both of which we used to be able to keep forever now its got a time limit. I dont onow how many proven cases of exposure to staff by soluable drugs there are but i have not heard of any at all. And if there are how many are from them not followin procedures o wearing gloves? As for inmates getting soluable drugs thats also from a lack of personel to properly test said mail when arriving. I dont think a lack of employees and traingbshould be fixed by a solution requiring more employees and training and removing what little humanism and connection we have without a legit excuse besides speculation. (11/4/2025)

363. I feel that the process of electronic mail robs a person of that moment personalized touch of the loved one who sent it to that person. I have people who have passed on and being able to hold on to the last thing they touched,wrote,signed,or even that last moment of their existence captured in a photo gives me a personalized feeling from that person. You have to ask

yourself,...If you were in this situation would you want to suffer or be robbed from those last captured moments of existence from your loved one? I wouldn't want anyone to be in this position to suffer beyond what they have for the choices of a chosen few. (11/4/2025)

364. I hate that the mail is on the tablet. We still dont get our mail and we only get pictures for 6 mos. We cant have the cards our loved one sends in . If my loved one who send in that card passes away i would want to keep that card for the memories . I like that we get paper mail it means more to have in hand not on the tablet ..... (11/4/2025)

365. I hate the changes i liked getting mail from my loved ones and my friends this scanning is just a way for these so called co's to do less and sit on there asses more. getting letters help un in prison feel more connected to the outside world its as bad as going to nothing but video visits its a joke (11/4/2025)

366. I have a couple comments to make about the mail policy change. Please please read it all!!!
First the biggest issue is not actually receiving physical mail, because let say god for bid a family member sends me mail and then suddenly passes away. I cant get the very last thing they may ever send to me. Thats scary and cruel. Also our mail will no longer feel personal. For instance my mothets letters i know she wrote, spent time, and touched these pieces of paper. Once you copy it or paste it on the tablet it losses all of that.
Secondly, at least here in Pontiac PC we dont get contact visits. So the closest thing we get is physical mail from loved ones. The non contact visits need to change here.
Third, my family would buy one magazine once a year for me and now they would be forced to buy me a whole subscription so it can be sent to me by the publisher. Costing my family more money.
Then there is this issue, here i pontiac we are only allowed 100 magic cards in our possession. To play the game properly you need no less then 1000. Here were it gets tricky. Only way to get cards now is through a company. So lets say i have a hundred cards but want different ones to use at the moment. I have to send the hundred home, but when i do that i can never get those cards sent back in. Since i can only get cards from a company. Also my family was buying cards from stores and sending them to me. Also that goes for puzzle books also.Now they have to find a way to buy them from a company to send them to me or forces me to purchase them from commisary. Thats not right. Makes it more expensive. My mother who does everything for me is to old to understand the internet to do these things. So im screwed now.
This doesnt only effect people in custody as you can see.
One last issue is censorship. For instance idoc can now chose to ban companys, books, magazines, and certain mail from coming in or being read. That has already startrd here. The library here had erotica on they shelves, and i started reading a bunch of them. Then all of a sudden they told me they no longer have them for us to read. They were removed from the shelves. Thats censorship. Theres banned books already and now theres going to be more and more.
One last thing: Since the only way i can get stuff in is from a company. Then IDOC should start allowing Care packages through companys also. That way our people can still send stuff that feels personal to an extent.
I completely understand the logic around it, but its not the right way to do it. There has to be a

better way and im hoping once this hits the court system ina class action. They courts will also rule there has to be a better way. We may be incarcerated but we are human and or families shouldnt be punished either. (11/4/2025)

367. I have been incarcerated for over 24yrs and I have friends and loved ones who have passed away during these times and having to see there arbituary on a tablet is not consoling or sincere as to having the real arbituary I can have in my property. Things can happen on the tablet such as glitch etc. Plus having mailing on our tablet will be much slower cuz these c.o are lazy and dont wanna be perfesional which will cause our mail to be delayed or never seen. This mailing is a horrible idea cuz no one will actually do there job.. They barely wanna do there job on our video visits which is constantly being cancel due to short of staff.. Now our mail have to be screen on a tablet.. We will never get our mail.. Badd idea bad amendment please do not change i to a tablet.. The c.o just have to do there job if u can screen shot evwry mail u should be able to screen every mail for contrband, this i an excuse to discourage our family and friends from sending us mail (11/4/2025)

368. I have been incarcerated since 2007. I have very limited people who send me pictures,However when they DO send me pictures it is a very joyous ocasion. If I cannot have access to these pictures,in their physical form,it takes away from bond. If these pictures will only exist on this tablet for 6 months,then I will lose access to pictures I will never be able to replace. (11/4/2025)

369. I myself do not like the fact of them copying and giving us a copy of our mail. Getting something from our family that is wrote by them or seeing that our family or whomever wrote us took time and see it first hand means something to us. We as inmates already have enough things we cannot control and this is another thing/right taken away from us. I dont believe that this concept has been looked at to see the ramifications on how we are affected or our loved ones in this situation. (11/4/2025)

370. I personally dont beleive that our mail should be printed on tablet and sent as email like mail. Some of us greatly need the original letters cards etc that our lived ones family friends send us as our families friends loved ones are growing older and we cherish everything they send. Not everyone incarcerated is here for drugs and our families arent sendind us drugs through the mail. It is rediculous to assume all inmates are of that caliber. I simply wish to receive the original letters cards etc that is sent as one never knows when our family loved ones or friends may pass while we are incarcerated. (11/4/2025)

371. I personally dont recieve much mail outside of cards for my birthday from my grandparents and pictures from friends/family so my only thing is stuff like that are things you want to keep for long periods of time if people pass away or whatever those momentos could be all anyone have left of a loved one (11/4/2025)

372. I really dont get any mail but people are more into messaging but i dont think its right because there is nothing like holding a letter or card from your child. Some things are priceless for those who are doing a lot of time (11/4/2025)

373. I really think we all sould be able to get our family picture in the mail beacuse some thing peolpe can't replace picture if they get loss and that all peolpe have is family and friend picture and some peolpe also like to hang there picture up or just like looking at them so i also think puting picture on the tablet is a bad id because if a person break there tablet then it might be a good chance they might loss they picture or even recover there picture. (11/4/2025)

374. I received a birthday card from my Mom and a portion of it was cut off. (11/4/2025)

375. I cant find my pictures my people told me that they sent (11/4/2025)

376. I really feel like it should go back to the old ways it takes way longer to get the mail (11/4/2025)

377. Bottom line - communication is key. Not just phone connection - but the content of mail. If its on tablet, that is fine, provided 'timely' is not current practice at IRCC, for which we are either not receiving things mailed to us or things are over 6 weeks to 8 weeks delay. That is unacceptable in terms of meaningful communication in a timely fashion. (11/4/2025)

378. I been waiting for 3 weeks to get my gift catalog printed out. Can you let Lawrence Correctional Center know how and what to do to print our mail out (11/4/2025)

379. 1.) Several mail items are not getting reference numbers put on them for submission to print
2.) All my letters are not getting scanned correctly, chopping off the bottom of the second pages so you can not read.
3.) Ive submitted legal paperwork to be printed and yet to get copies. (11/4/2025)

380. i am still missing all my mail from September 14 through the middle of October. (11/4/2025)

381. I do not like it because they delete my pic every 6 months (11/4/2025)

382. Regarding proposed IDOC rule change involving the scanning of mail and forwarding it to offenders' tablets, inmates & loved ones wholly oppose it for the following reasons:
1) As is the long-time norm here at Graham CC and likely all Illinois prisons, incoming mail that arrives at the prison soon after it was sent then sits in the mailroom for an average of 4 weeks before being forwarded to the intended offender-recipient. The labor-intensive process of scanning each page of incoming mail further time-consuming, scanning only lengthen the amount of time before mail actually arrives (on the offender tablets). Were the mailroom historically NOT routinely taking 4 weeks to â€œprocessâ€ so much as a postcard, the rule proposal may be doable. Instead, the added labor of scanning mail will surely further slow mail delivery. As it is, 2-way correspondence by mail is already impossible due to month-long delay between mail's arrival at the prison and delivery to the offender.
2) As is ALREADY the case, some incoming mail is time-sensitive, needing response or acted upon BEFORE it even arrives to the offender. The time-consuming scanning process will further preclude the utility of incoming mail. Senders of important mail often request a response before

some set deadline, one that already expired before the offender ever received the mail. The scanning process only LENGTHENS the amount of time before mail arrives to the offender, further rendering important time-sensitive correspondence impossible.
3) Some incoming mail are items that need filled out, say, a form of some sort, a questionnaire, or items needing the offenders' signature. There is no way for the offender to fill out the form or questionnaire, or sign the documents on the tablet and then return it to the sender as the sender requested. Scanned mail is NOT email by any means. Indeed, many of the issues herein would be resolved were offenders afforded genuine email access, instead of the useless grossly-limiting prison-propriety text app lacking any meaningful utility at all.
4) The scanning process already in effect, when mail involving multiple pages is scanned, the pages display on the tablets out of order in odd juxtapositions, thus are awkward to read as intended, and confusing.
5) A longtime issue even BEFORE the scanning, incoming mail is not processed in the order that it arrived, but is instead processed haphazardly at random absent any chronological order. The longer it takes to receive SCANNED mail on the tablet, the more confusing it becomes when mail sent on October 27th arrives on the tablet BEFORE mail that sat in the mailroom since September 25th. This is the normal course of events whether mail is scanned or not. Scanning just exacerbates the problem.
6) Nevermind that mail arrives to the offender grossly out of chronological order whether scanned or not, as described above; the scanned mail items are listed in the tablets' mail folder without any timestamp as to WHEN the mail was sent or WHEN it arrived at the prison, and there's no way for the offender to (re)label the mail items as such or move them around so that they at least APPEAR in their would-be chronological order had they been processed accordingly. Offenders with alot of scanned mail on their tablets thus have difficulty locating any particular piece of mail. Most mail in the tablet's mail folder is simply labeled â€œunknownâ€□. Only occasionally will the label instead include the sender's name, but never a timestamp.
7) Incoming mail is further being scanned improperly, in that the pages are sometimes not centered on the scanner such that the bottom of the page is cut off rendering the final sentence(s) of the page unreadable. When requesting the item be re-scanned so that the mail can be fully readable, the request is refused, the mailroom replying that the pages already appear fully readable on the tablet as it should, when in fact it does not, the final sentences clearly cut off at the bottom of the page and indiscernible.
8) While the proposed rule change doesn't limit the number of pages that can be sent to the offender then scanned to the tablet, it is inconceivable that the mailroom would dedicate itself to scanning a package of 50 or so pages of printouts of various online material, say, news articles, Wikipedia entries, sports websites, social media content, etc. or anything of such volume which are otherwise routinely sent to some offenders by family and friends.
9) A recent memo assured offenders that they will be afforded a quality photo/hard copy of any piece of mail upon request. Not so. The reply to such a request states there's â€œno directiveâ€□ to do so and that no one has been trained. Accordingly, the offender can't even get a photocopy of his mail.
For these reasons offenders and our families/families/supporters wholly oppose the proposed rule change to allow the scanning of our mail to the tablets, it an additional barrier to meaningful correspondence. (11/4/2025)

383. "Proposed Rule Changes for Mail"

1. All scanned postal mail is labeled as 'Unknown', which makes it impossible to determine who mail is from when you receive more than one. It needs to be properly and chronologically labeled so we can keep track of incoming mail and the mail that is going to be deleted. It comes in scattered and untrackable to us. You literaly have to go through all the same looking unknowns until you find the article of mail again.
2. We should have the option to delete unwated or unneeded mail ahead of schedule as to keep a manageable inbox. Facility already has a copy in your database. A delete feature should be installed.
3. Photos of the copied mail are not cropped properly. When we open our mail, writing and words and parts of the pictures are cropped out so we cannot see the whole picture or the letter that the mailer has sent.
4. The orientation of the letter, picture, and/or message are not being properly scanned. When we download them they are horizontal instead of vertical making it difficult to zoom in and out to see in a normal fashion. The picture rotates and cannot be viewed correctly. It may be a matter of how the item scanned is being laid on the scanner. I believe it should simply be turned another 90Â° counter or counterclockwise from its current position to correct this error. (11/4/2025)

384. After ""actually reading"" the entire Illinois Register Notice of Proposed Amendments I currently at this time see no need for concern except only in that "" access to digitized mail to a tablet owner can be a bit nerve wrecking to one needing access but cant acquire it because a problem arose with the tablet taking damage and had to be turned in for another that wasnt prioritized and thus therefore an undue delay issue arised in having to wait for a long period of time for a replacement tablet ??? (11/4/2025)

385. BEFORE THE SCANNING TOOK PLACE, I RECIEVED ALOT MORE MAIL THAN I AM GETTING NOW. I DID GET 17 ITEMS IN MY CELL THAT WERE CHRISTIAN AND LEGAL MAIL AND I GOT JUST 11 SCANNED ITEMS. LAST NIGHT ON 11-3-25 I GOT TWO MAIL ITEMS FROM 10-14-25 AND 10-15-25 WAS NICE TO READ AND GET. BUT THE SCANNING WAIT IS TAKING A LONG TIME TO RECIEVE. IT WOULD BE BETTER IF THEY SENT OUR MAIL TO A SCANNING CENTER. WOULD GET OUR MAIL FASTER THAN WHAT I AM GETTING NOW. SO FAR I SENT OUT OVER 725 ITEMS OF MAIL AND GOT IN OVER 340 ITEMS. THE SCANNING HERE AT BIG MUDDY RIVER IS NOT ALL THAT GREAT. I KNOW THEY ARE TRYING TO GET CAUGHT UP ON MAIL TO US. AND I NOT GOT ANY MAIL FROM SEPTEMBER IN AFTER 9-26-25. I BEEN GETTING MAIL FOR OCTOBER. THANK YOU FOR TRYING TO GET US OUR MAIL. I WILL WAIT AND BE PATIENT AND BE GLAD TO GET MAIL IN FROM MY FRIENDS. GARY LADD JR. (11/4/2025)

386. At this present moment there is no color copier for the mailroom. So I received some photo's from my sister in the mail and I asked for copies of them. When I got the copies from the mailroom, they were regular copy paper, in black and white. The quality was very upsetting. Hopefully when this institution gets the color copier, they will also use good quality paper for photo's, but right now it sucks. Also, the mail app is not the same that you showed us on Edovo and on the bullentin board. All mail shows up as " Unknown ", it's not in order from when we receive it, and there is no date, so I am force to search through it to find the right letter. It's mentioned that they hold our mail for 6 months, so do we have the option to mail it back before

the 6 months expire? Especially the ones with photos in it. There are people in here still overdosing on that K2 stuff. Maybe there's still a lot left before you stopped our mail from coming in. I'm hoping it runs out soon and thats the only way it's getting in. Too many people have already died from that horrible stuff. So I thank you for trying to keep us safe and I really hope this works. (11/4/2025)

387. At this point the changes seem very confusing even to the staff. What's allowed or not allowed is quite vague and open to misunderstanding by both staff and inmates. The mail here at Big Muddy is nearly 30 days behind and getting worse by the day. This whole thing was not well thoughtout, planned, or implemented. (11/4/2025)

388. Currently both sides of the envelope, letters & pictures are being scanned. I understand why this is being done. I would like to suggest that this system implement a way to remove the page(s) that don't have any writing on them out of the way. Right now every other page is blank because most people don't write on the back side of the sheet of paper. It's all wasted space & it ruins the continuity of reading your letter(s) & looking @ your pictures. Also, can a gallery be created just for picures that are mailed in, just like the gallery for the free learning videos on the tablet? (11/4/2025)

389. During the initial implamentation of the new mail scanning procedures I have had multiple parcels patially scanned, meaning half of the page was scanned. Upon request from the staff to rescan my mail I am met without a reply nor any prompting that my mail will be rescanned. In regards to only approving publications from stores and publishers, I am not in favor of the change however as long as the list of approved vendors stays more open then I am willing to keep an open mind. I can sympothize with mail room staff concerning the dangers of illicet substances coming into these facilities. I would like to see a future procedure that would restore my reception of my original paper mail. Thank you. (11/4/2025)

390. FIRST and formost our mail here at Graham C.C. is about a month or more behind. IT NEEDS FIXED PLEASE.
SECOND, if we are not going to be allowed to have actual pictures then when we request for them to be printed out they should be on gloss photo paper not just printing paper.
THIRD, we should be allowed to recieve our bank mail or any other offical mail from a bissness mail.
LAST, I believe that IDOC needs to partner with a vendor (like NUTS.COM) that would allow our family and friends to order us packaged food and snacks. (11/4/2025)

391. First and formost, I do understand why IDOC has changed the way we in here receive our mail because the drugs problems. Here in Lawrence it been a delay on receiving a copy of our mail because they haven't figure out who's going to make the copies. Also the memo that we received about the up coming changes was different in way we could request a copy of our mail. The memo stated that we could just request a copy through our tablet by hitting a button to request a copy but here in Lawrence we have to fill out a request to the mail room. I been waiting on a copy of my mail for a month now. Some guys in here had their mail or pictures sent to others people tablet. (11/4/2025)

392. Here at Sheridan anyway they are cutting off parts of the mail on the tablets, refusing to allow in mail not on vontraband list and refusing to make hard coppies. (11/4/2025)

393. From my own eye witness testimony I can say that Logan Corr. Center are doing what they want regarding our mail.This servy is where we can barely get to in on the education app.Ask yourself why is this?Answer because they don't want us to fill it out.This servy should be exposed along wih all the other IMPORTANT memos that we have easy access to instead of tucked away under the edovo app.Hadn't I went to the edovo app I never would've saw it.So,I saw that the vote in legislation was against the institutions scanning our mail,but Logan doing what they wanted began the scanning process a few ladies legal mail was even scanned & individuals also had scanned pictures after the vote was agaimst it.Yhen they came wiyh a memo saying that its a security risk for drugs,but nothing has changed.Mail now is backed up & a memo came out where we can't receive jewelry,cards,stationary,bras,etc.etc,but it's not signed by anyone from Springfield or from the governors office.So,I question why aren't Logan following the law? (11/4/2025)

394. Getting video mail or more specifically pictures on the tablet frivilous when you still provide inmates later on with the paper pictures. I understand certain pictures being investigated and targeted if they where pictures sent from home but the pictures that are being investigated where pictures that are shipped from the jail picture facility and this whole promblem has delayed the time we get our pictures from our loved ones. If my loved ones sent pictures from FreePrint or PeliPost and the pictures where supposed to get here October 17th there is no way im supposed to be recieveing my pictures a whole month late, thats uncalled for and honestly bad staff work at any facility in the state of Illinois. (11/4/2025)

395. Having a better system with scanning and delivering incoming mail within a timely fashion. Our mail isstill delayed due to this changes. Hire more help in the mail room. My legal mail is also delayed. (11/4/2025)

396. I am concerned about time time it takes to recieve scanned mail. (11/4/2025)

397. I dont mind the scanned mail. The only thing I have noticed,it feels like its taking longer to receive the mail. (11/4/2025)

398. Hi i understand the situation with the drugs, even here in centralia. Ive seen these guys bring back from industries and pass it out and charge $10 a hit. Any kind of cemicals or bug killers there spraying and smoking it using batteries. Which we need for shaving. I asked for a norelco rechargable to reduce the batteries and no responce. The MAIL was an issue on sept 26th . i had mail delivered postdated before that and it was scaned ?? Also my birthdday was sept. 30 and my family sent me suduko books and in the packages were cards and letters. All post dated before the 30th of sept. And they were never opened and sent back. $67.00 worth of mail. My family said the director lied then on the dates. I did put in a grievance and a letter to springfield for reembursment of mail that was rightfully to be given to me. Im not a smoker and dislike those that do. Ive watched them curl up on the floor drooling or laying in there vomit, payment was also done in sexual favors. They dont even close the doors cause there high. Good grief. I think those people instead of seg should be placed in substance abuse asap for help. Not as

parole, its to late for some then! Sorry for all this but the scanning is to hard for me to read through the light. Ive asked several times for copies of my mail and in the directors memo said we could request copies. As of now its up to 149 pages. Please help me to keep receiving copies. If i had tinted glasses it would help. I have prescription glasses. I was given tint all my life at home cause of my eyes but no not here YET lots of others here have it and wire rims. This place retatiates against me cause i bring up issues or grieve i cant get a job:-(thanks for your time and i hope the drugs get taken care of. Ronald bieberitz B39726 (11/4/2025)

399. I feel that any mail such as pictures that are sent directly from the publication centers shld not be delayed after arrival for such a long period of time as they are now. Some inmates are waiting up to a month to recieve their pictures that are sent from the centers not from family, friends, etc:. It has taken a long time to recieve them after being delivered to the institution to be recieved by the inmate. Thank you for ur time and concern in this matter. (11/4/2025)

400. I dont know if this mail system is also supposed to be more efficient but its not because ive been waiting on important mail for a month now. Its a power of attorney form that i need and so now im waiting for these people to put it on my tablet, then wait until the mail room feels like printing it out for me when i request it printed. You people rushed this system on us and werent even ready for the implementation. If you guys were trying to stop people from using drugs why isnt there programs that offer drug treatment? You guys are backwards and i can almost guarantee that almost everybody in here feels the same way. (11/4/2025)

401. I agree with rule changes. But Sheridan C.C. Mail Room refuses to provide Physical copies of mail us individuals have submitted "Mail Print Request" for. There response to Grievances is that there awaiting Direction grom IDOC. But IDOC has already provided the Direction when it Implemented the Scanning and posting of mail onto the tablets. But you should know that the Staff in Sheridan's Mail room do not follow IDOC guidlines for mail processing. Something needs to be done. And us individuals have nobody to turn to, even grievances dont work becaues the mail room staff will lie and get away with it like they always do. We are held to be acountable for our actions and so should they. Please help... (11/4/2025)

402. I am happy for mail changes. Just need idoc staff to fallow policy i have several request for pictures to be printed and sheridan cc mail room is not printing any mail. 5 grievances so far. Two at stages two also all files need to be named and dated it is hard to find mail with 30+ unknown files. (11/4/2025)

403. I am in full support of this to keep drugs from entering prisons.one thing is i recieved 3 pieces of mail now 2 were from clerks of court and 1 from aleph institute which is a 501c3 non profit providing education and scripture to us jewish prisoners. They even have programs here on the tablet. All these were scanned and not given to me.The chances of the courts smuggling drugs into a prison is 0%. please give me these as paper mail.If you want to copy them and then give me the copies im fine with that.The memo says non profits will be delivered. I do have a complaint about opening legal mail from the courts.You circle it is from the clerk of courts.That is obvious. All mailing from the courts is through the clerk,Judges dont mail you direct. This ia just an excuse to be nosy. You should send a letter to a judge and see who replies.I am certain it will not be the judge replying and will always and legaly be the clerks office who does

this.Judges are prohibited from corresponding by mail with all parties in a legal case.So this is legal mail.I have been to 3 prisons and this is the only one who does this.Letters we send to the clerk are classified as legal mail so should be their letters to us. (11/4/2025)

404. I am in total agreement with the changes as I see them as a need in the fight against dangerous contrabands from entering the facilities. Yet, I do have one concern to address. The new proposed amendments clearly state that publications (newsletters, bulletins, brocures) directly from publishers, inclding religious organizations or ministrirs, would not be scanned and would be given in original form to IIC. That said, the mailroom at Sheridan C.C. is not following such directive. A review of my mail scanned to my tablet will confirm that I have received publications (newsletters, brochures, monthly donation payment publication) from five different religious organizations and ministries and the mailroom staff has scanned it and refused to not only send me the originals but copies as well. Please understand I need the monthly payment publication card in order to submit my monthly religious tithes and donations. Please consider including these payment/donations forms as exempt from scanning. Thank you. (11/4/2025)

405. I am not a fan of the proposed changes to the mail because this facility does not follow the guidelines. Its my understanding that educational mail is supposed to be delivered but they scan it here. I have been trying to get a copy of my blackstone proctor exam form for over a month so i can sign it and submit it to take my final exam.
As for edovo the wifi needs to be upgraded because the college courses do not play through so i can not do them. This facility does not offer programs and only runs school once a week. So edovo is the only educational programming i can utilize. (11/4/2025)

406. I feel like this mail scanning process isnt working how it should considering they are sending the wrong people other peoples mail and also not scanning all mail sent to us. My family has sent pictures and mail to me that has been sent back to them unopened and with no reason why mail was sent back. This is keeping us from our right to recieve mail. (11/4/2025)

407. I don't mimd at all that my mail is scanned. However, mail that comes in addressed to me from a finanvial institution should not ne scanned but rather sent to me at my cell just like other types of mail that are exempt from scanning. Also, I have sent print mail requests to the mailroom but they habe not been answered except for oneâ€”but the response was not a print of my mail, but rather a statement tellimg me that they would not print the tax forms my sister sent to me. I thiugjt you all were supposed to print whatever has been uploaded to oir tablets without any restrictions or costs?!?/Also, the mailroom scanned an affidavit that I urhently need for my legal work, nut the mail room jas ignored my requests to print it oit for me. Also, they uploaded a multipage publication but did not upload the envelope with the mail.code number on it so I can tequest print mail.of that item. Not going well. (11/4/2025)

408. i dint care if my mail is scanned or not outside of pictures and maybe drawings frim my children. however, the staff needs to be better trained as the wrong inmates are getting the wrong mail exposing private information to tye wrong people, including aending of pictures of childen to sex offenders accidentally. the changes are fine but if its not a timely thing and if it cannot be done in a secure an appropriate way, then it should not be implemented until it is. (11/4/2025)

409. I can understand why they say they is doing it,but here is my question to their reason for doing it,If our mail is one of the problems,why would you keep our mail for 6 months afterwards,considering the fact that the IDOC has deemed our mail dangerous and harmful to employees and individuals in custody,even deeper than that you will not allow us to return our mail to our family,your leaders want to destroy the original pictures and letters from our family,why not allow us the choice of sending our mail back to our family or having it destoyed immediately after getting our copies instead if keeping it for 6months and we do not know who has access to our family information after keeping it up there in storage,any employee can obtain that info.we should not have to allow our family info to be in lingo like that.help me understand why our mail cannot be sent back instead of being kept for 6months and then destroyed,my first mail since this change has really confused me,I recieved mail from SSM medical facility,l got a alert that I had mail on my tablet it was listed as unknown but clearly states SSM mecdical,so I had to get a copy of that mail, Now the following week I got mail from a bible study course I am taking-that mail was sent directly to me,so I wrote the mailroom asking for clarity as to why I recieved one peace of mail and not the other,it states"Qoute"we cannot add a senders name to your list so that is why it is listed as unknown, "Unquote"there is no Human name on either peace of mail in reference,one says bible study,the other says SSM medical,however I just feel this is a big waste of money,last but not least,since they are now monitoring all our mail everyday, Are they drug testing all employees coming in to work everyday?"I'm just saying" Live long-Laugh alot-Love Hard, Peace and Light!!J.P. (11/4/2025)

410. I feel it is a good thing, but some mail should not be taking away, like court papers and documents, I received Court papers from The Illinois Supreme Court and they didn't give me my Court Documents but put them on the tablet, I wrote the mailroomn several times about a Photo copy of them documents and I still haven't received it these are Court documents now the Prison is Violating my U.S Const 14th Amend and IL Const (1970) Art 1 sec 2 Due process and equal protection under the law, some letters such as Court Documents should not be place on the tablet it clearly show this document came from the Illinois Supreme Court, mail on the tablet only stay on the tablet for a limit of time, and we should always have those documents as a part of our personal Court file. (11/4/2025)

411. I dont mind the changes in the mail besides the fact its been 3 weeks since my letter and pictures been sent and i havemt gotten them yet i dont want my pictures destroyed i want my pictures i dont find it right to have my stuff destroyed and not recieved copies right away i shouldnt have to ask for them (11/4/2025)

412. I don't mind getting my mail on the tablet. But also wouls like to have a hard copy. I have two letters so far. I put in for a mail print request. So far have not gotten the request filled. How many moths will it take to make a copy. Was it a lie about the print mail request. If that is the case. I want my hard copy over on the tablet. Want my familey to send me letters. But not the way this place is handling it now. I give thie a 4 out of 10. (11/4/2025)

413. I dont aggree with this. I have issues reading on the tabt because ot hirts my eyes. And i have already requested for my mail to be printed oit and sent to me and it has not been. They upload it all with the label saying ""unknown"" for every upload. The people who scan ot do ot

very sloppy and im missing pages so im not even getting all my mail scanned in. This prison likes to change oir pins and not give us the new pins fpr weeks at a time therefore witholding oir mail and phonecalls for no reason what so ever. This new mail system is NOT OKAY. please go back to allowing us to get our mail normal. Or atleast force them to print it out upon request. Iv placed two requests for the same thing to be printed for me so i can read it and have not recieved it. Iv been waiting a monthnow for that. (11/4/2025)

414. I have been sent personal greeting cards and STILL haven't gotten them. I don't know how long mail takes to be delivered nowadays, from one side of the country to the other, but 14 days would apper to be excessive. Have I been locked up so long to ever notice a delay with the modern Postal Service, compared to 20 years ago?? (11/4/2025)

415. I have no issues with the changes as long as we have the opportunity to have the mail sent home after its scanned. The letters i have from my mother that i held onto is the last words i will ever have from her since she passed away and they mean the world to me. (11/4/2025)

416. I have no problem with getting my mail on my tablet, I just wish the printing process was easier. When we had GTL we were able to push a button, now we have to fill out paperwork and wait. (11/4/2025)

417. I have not got any mail sent to me (11/4/2025)

418. I like the new system they have going for mail and phone calls. I just wish they would post the mail faster and let pictures remain on the tablet forever instead of being erased. (11/4/2025)

419. I like the idea of having all digital mail, however the time it takes to receive the downloaded letter is appaulling. October 2 i received physical letter, i did not have it available on my tablet until October 18. This incompetence will cause our loved ones to slow down or potentially stop writing altogether due to lack of of response or timeframe expected of letter reply. (11/4/2025)

420. I need my mail printed out (11/4/2025)

421. I need my personal mail so I can read it whennthe tablets are shutndown (11/4/2025)

422. I need print outs of my mail
(11/4/2025)

423. I nees print outs of my mail. (11/4/2025)

424. I think its takes incredibly too long to receive mail on the tablet, but at the same time getting drugs out of the prison is more important. But for some drugs to be stopped a couple CO's need to be fired for bringing it in here, its odd that theres no mail but the nasty stuff inmates smoke is flowing like always. Start searching the CO's before shifts (11/4/2025)

425. I think its stupid. If my family sends me pictures of my kids they will only be on my tablet for 90 days. You should punishnthose that have been caught doing drugs & the ones that you suspect. My family is not the type of people who would risk themselves being in trouble or incarcerated fro sending in drugs. They're already upset with me for being incacerated. (11/4/2025)

426. I havent recieved any mail or pictures (11/4/2025)

427. I havent recived any mail since the changes have been mad i was also earning good time threw the mail called criminon i was reciving packets every 2 weeks since the change the mailing handling i havent recevied anything and it crazy becausebi can recieve goodtime now i can get any of that do to the mail there not giving us (11/4/2025)

428. I miss having a small wall calendar to keep track of the day of the week and the date. Now they cant come through the mail. Also, ive completed almost 80 Edovo courses and have no way to have them mailed in to me so i can show the IPRB about the progress ive made nor the positive accomplishments ive done with my 48 years in prison. (11/4/2025)

429. I ordered 6 yktv magazines over 2 months ago and still have not recieved them yet .... Why (11/4/2025)

430. I think the mail situation is not a good idea. My birthday came and my mother sent four cards that i usually keep all my cards. I do not have the cards to go into my collection of cards that i have saved throughout years. My pictures were sent to stateville, copied in black and white of my very young children. That was horrible. (11/4/2025)

431. I think theyre over doing it and intruding on our rights for mail. Also slowing the process way down making us wait excessive amounts of time to even get our copies on the tablet (11/4/2025)

432. I think this is a great idea to help keep drug soaked mail brought in. I do not like being around people who sell and smoke. They bring the wrong attention to the house and wing and at times your cell if your celly is one of them. Happened to me twice in the 2 years i have been here. Don't like the drama or the people they bring around. The only thing i don't like is not getting my pictures from loved ones. Some can't afford to pay for delivery from manufacturer but now i'm not sure if pictures from ""Freeprints"" will be considered manufacture sender and come thru or if i would get paper copy per request? The full information is not all there in the memo. (11/4/2025)

433. I think this is a terrible idea. If we get something hand made, it is destroyed since we can't even mail it home. The scan quality is terrible and when we ask for a printout, it never seems to come. Extremely poor implementation. (11/4/2025)

434. I think this is a terrible idea. It is more expensive, requires more staff and is inefficient. It is taking a long time to get mail. People are being denied copies of intensly personal pictures (family who've died, for example) and letters. I have requested copies of mail amd have not

received them. I feel like I'm being punished for stuff others have done. They already have rules and punishments set for people who abuse the mail. I don't understand why they can't enforce those rules and proceedures. Ultimately, there is nothing like holding a letter written by my mom or a drawing from my niece and nephew. The tactile contact with personal correspondence cannot be understated. I know it's prison and that they are trying to reduce drugs and contraband from getting in. I don't know that I have a better solution. But I know that I've never done or encountered drugs in prison. My family has never brought or sent in contraband. Probably MOST individuals in custody in Illinois could (honestly) say the same. Thanks for listening. (11/4/2025)

435. I think the mail teally sucks because it enterferes with my Bible studies. That has nothing to with their contraband problem. It is a major contitution violation. (11/4/2025)

436. I just got a letter from my aunt that I need to attached to my legal petition, and I can't get it. Also, the scan of the letter was cut off at the bottom, so I can't even read the whole letter. (11/4/2025)

437. I have went from recieving no less than three letters a week to not reciecing anything since the mail system has changed. (11/4/2025)

438. I have yet to see any improvement in the amount of drug related smoke. It is ever present day and night. There is what appears to be a closed eye approach to the smoke in almost all cases. The digital mail formatting has done no good, and if anything gotten worse. That takes inmate mail out of the equation. Plus, the penal institution is to print mail copies upon request - this isn't happening. Missionary/Ministry publications, direct addressed are also not coming through, including lessons and certificates of completion. Pinckneyville Correctional Center, 5835 State Rt. 154, Pinckneyville IL 62274 (11/4/2025)

439. I havent got any of my mail yet in months and my people said they sent it here to me at Illinois river corr center months ago. I havent even got my legai mail that was sent weeks ago and I have a time line on my appeal that I'm about to miss. It should be faster because of the mail machine. Also some mail has moral value to us like greeting cards and pictures from relatives that end up passing away while were in here and thats all we have left to remember them. (11/4/2025)

440. I honestly dont like it because i dont want my mail end up on other peoples tablet and i want my mail in my property. So i dont have to write and ask to get a copy cause by the time i get the copies the prison will change the issue from free copies to having us pay due to use of printer paper (11/4/2025)

441. I really dont like it because i cant recieve my pictures once i follow and do everything im suppose to do. (11/4/2025)

442. I have no real problems with the mail changes as someone trying to better myself and be clean and sober people doing drugs around me here makes that difficult so hopefully this helps me and others since mail has been scaned on the tablets though one of my letters from my sister

was only half scaned over a month ago and i have put in multiple request slips to try and get this change so i can read the back of my letter and i have been told there is no back because the mail staff dont want to dig it out and redo it even though my sister has told me that it was a front and back letter (11/4/2025)

443. I feel that the new protocol is a lil overboard due to not all mail gets fully scanned to show all contents in the letter and some ppl r sentimental and likes to have the physical letters plus alot of prisons are backed up and its taking 2-3x's longer to get our mail with the new protocol. At least hire a couple inmate to help sort the mail so its distributed quicker (11/4/2025)

444. I feel that the scanning of the mail needs a better system. Our mail has been so far back dated due to this we are receiving mail on our tablets from Aug. As far as the other things that are being discussed to change I agree with/ disagree some of the things. I havent seen in all my years of incarceration the things I have seen or heard of over the past couple of years. (11/4/2025)

445. I feel that you've done sonething to "SLOW DOWN" the issue withbthe "K2" epidemic but it's still coming into this Graham Camp. You've also stated we can get "Free" copies of our paper mail and i had a response sent to me from Oxford houses of Illinois which did come on my tablet almost a month to the day the day later than the post mark . i understand this is all new and a work in progress but some of us thats getting out soon would like to know of home plans so wr can prepare to seek jobd in the communities we will be going alobg with other programss and resources,now in saying all of that to say this. I put in a request slip with the proper info to get a paper copy of the letter in question as yawl stated for us to do but still havent gotten a copy 3 weeks later . So hopefulky in the future things will be sped up. (11/4/2025)

446. I feel we should be given a copy of our mail when it comes in and delivered to us,instead of having to send in a request slip because here in pinckneyville correctional center they dont give out but (1) request slip every friday and if you ask for a request slip they say they dont have any or they just say no,ive put requests in on just paper.like they say and ive never got a reply from one. it'll be a hassle to get copies of your mail through a request slip and you might have to wait for days to get the mail you requested a copy of. it would be much easier if they just copied or scanned it to copies and just sent the contents of that letter to us just like they've been doing to our cells. Ive put in a request for mail.already and its been a week and still havent got the copies of the mail i requested and its a news letter 11pages long from prison cast in chicago.theres gotta be a better way than requesting copies of our mail that we want.im just making a suggestion not arguing the fact because i do know they need to stop the contrband coming in i get it and agree. But ghere ould be a better solution than just on the tablet as well. (11/4/2025)

447. I hate this tablet network goes in and out. I also have my dead wifes picturs sitting in the mail room for 6 months tell the nonreplacable pics get destoryed! They have gave no one copys of anything requesteted. This tablet is so junk! I am about to give up on it all together then get no mail. That is what it feels like you want anyway! (11/4/2025)

448. I get that the department of corrections is trying to stop the contraband from coming in but they need a faster way for us to get our mail them scanning it is stupid (11/4/2025)

449. I have an issue with the timeliness of mail delivery. I have been waiting for mail that were delivered month ago to this institution, illinois river cc. This is not a new thing here. Also, the mailroom refuses to print the mail because they said, you, being springfield or idoc have not told them how to do it. (11/4/2025)

450. I personally think it's a good idea removing ALL drugs from the prisons! My issue is the mail system and the way it issues mail. For example; my sister sent me my transcripts & certificates,from courses I'd completed on the edovo educational courses. It arrived here at, Hill C. C. on september 12,2025. The Director's memo came out on the 26th of september. The mailroom still placed my certificates on my tablet,when they arrived here way before the memo was sent. Not only that,I've asked on two seperate occasions for "mail print copies" I've yet to receive them! Those items weren't put on my tablet until october 28,2025. After arriving here,on the 12th of september. That's inexcusable! Not to mention,a letter was (5) weeks old and just placed on my tablet yesterday. There was already a long wait for mail,this process just adds to that because,it gives them more of an excuse of what they now have to do,which is in fact more than before and they didnt issue mail in a timely manner! I'm ALL for safety,a drug free environment! I just dislike having to be "punished or penalized" because of the actions of others. Will this new system process and issue mail,at a faster pace? Will the mailroom employees,make copies and issue them in a timely manner? They even removed from our devices,how you request copies of mail. I'm needing my copies to place in my petition for clemency,bur they're useless to me on this device because I cant take this device to court or any hearings,regarding my freedom. Lastly,back in april. Yes,I know a while ago! I had pictures sent to me and were told they were deemed "contraband" because a "foreign or sticky substance" was on the back of them. Yet,they gave me the letter. Which had nothing on it. It didnt make sense to me. So to date those pictures,sit in the mailroom waiting to be returned to sender. My money voucher for postage is dated,april 10,2025! I asked the mailroom,since we're not getting pictures sent through the mail. Is it possible to have those (3) pictures,placed on my tablet,instead of returned,since they've been in the mailroom for (6) months. No response whatsoever. I'm only asking for a fair system,a system that does work and places mail on the device in a timely manner and not weeks or months later. I certainly applaud the efforts to clean these places up!!
And I thank you,for wanting to save lives! Have a great day! I thank you,for your time! (11/4/2025)

451. I really don't care about the mail situation i just dont like how we have to wait for our pictures to get to us. That should come straight to us like the institutional mail. (11/4/2025)

452. I really dont care but certain things should not be copied and we should have the right to have the item (11/4/2025)

453. Ehh. It'll do (11/4/2025)

454. I dont really care (11/4/2025)

455. Got no commets (11/4/2025)

456. I don't have a comments . (11/4/2025)

457. thanks for the info"" (11/4/2025)

458. I feel drugs will always come in (11/4/2025)

459. I have no comment at this time. (11/4/2025)

460. Do not care to comment at all.
So go fuck yourself really deeply. (11/4/2025)

461. I dont care either way. (11/4/2025)

462. Doesnt effect me in any way (11/4/2025)

463. Don't have one (11/4/2025)

464. Do not care one way or the other (11/4/2025)

465. I dont give no fuck (11/4/2025)

466. I dont care one way or the other.
(11/4/2025)

467. I dont receive a ton of mail so it doesnt bother me too much. (11/4/2025)

468. I do not have any comments (11/4/2025)

469. I dont care im going home next year... (11/4/2025)

470. I have no comments about the mail. (11/4/2025)

471. As an individual thats has been incarcerated for 17years, I feel like the electronic mail is too little too late. We are currently faced with a durg epidemic in our state and as long as paper exsist in the facilities, call passes, request slips, visiting list, etc. Durgs will continue to be a problem, as they have been since the very creation of prison. (11/4/2025)

472. As long as im able to recieve the information in a reasonable time i dont mind it being electronic (11/4/2025)

473. As long as paper is allowed in idoc / the smoke will always be around . why , because you can always put a lawyer on the payroll . More chaso idoc just put on there plate. (11/4/2025)

474. As long as you can request a hard copy and receive everything in a timely manner I see no problem with it. (11/4/2025)

475. Ay no problem with me about the changes,long as we have the most services with the tablets... (11/4/2025)

476. Dont have any at the moment cause i dont know what that will be like at present. (11/4/2025)

477. Dont know what im supposed to type exactly, but it is what it is. (11/4/2025)

478. Good for cutting off K2, bad for the loved ones not being able to drop off books. (11/4/2025)

479. From an individual in custody stand point it's messed up because the few dictate for the many.
However, from an admin stand point something had to be done, these retarded idiots abuse every advailable outlet, at the expence of everyone else. Just to get high and possible die from smoking roach spray.
Personally, i say let them smoke that dumb shit. And let happen what will. (11/4/2025)

480. I am not sure about how the mail was before the change in mail protocols here in IDOC. Seems fair enough to me conidering what I read about it. Rules are rules, yes? (11/4/2025)

481. Far as the new mailing system in place,its not good.i state this because,after 6 months they destory are pictuers.some of the pictures we get are very important,like obituary,gradation pictures baby pictures and basically every picture that you find important.also you have people thats in school that gets a large amount of educational school work that will be destoried in 6months so this new mailing process is bad.now on the flip side i fully understand why the new mailing system is in place.if it will keep the drugs out the facilitys,yes its needed.
(11/4/2025)

482. I believe that mail being on the tablet isn't a bad idea as long as the mail come quicker. (11/4/2025)

483. I believe that the new mail and publications system is an appropriate approach to stop drugs but it hinders the sentimental emotion of receiving mail in hand from loved ones. (11/4/2025)

484. I dont really get mail here anyway i communicate on the phone (11/4/2025)

485. I dont care dont understand the memos u want to stop mail do it (11/4/2025)

486. I am a person who hates drugs, dont respect people who sell drugs and dont feel sorry for the weak individuals who fall victim to drug addiction. The drug issue in prison for the most part has been dealt with in illinios about as much as they can without admitting what the real problem is. The mail being scanned and downloaded to our tablet. The visiting room is secured by strip searches. I dont have no problem with any of this if it keeps that trash out of prison. But until the staff quits bringing in drugs it will never end. The amount of money that the correctional officers

make off of the paper is to good to pass up. All things have been fixed except the one that nobody wants to talk about : the staff. (11/4/2025)

487. I believe it is a good idea for our mail to be placed on the tablets via scan, but I also forsee this system being backed up and the mail wont be posted for thirty days or more which defeats the whole purpose of recieving mail in a timely manner. I.D.O.C already does not have the man power to distribute mail in a reasonable manner, so how is this scan process gonna be quicker? It may be safer but we individuals in custody probably still will not receive scan mail for two to three weeks after our mailrooms get it. And that one piece of mail may be of significant importance. Hope it works out. (11/4/2025)

488. I didnt know that because people do drugs prison that they can withhold mail. Ive heard of letters thats cut off, Ive seen officers fake passing out and I was amazed at how the lock downs it was crazy but hey (11/4/2025)

489. I don't see that scanning mail will cause any problems. As long as I can still receice my puzzle magazines from Penny Press, I've got no issues with the proposed policy. (11/4/2025)

490. I believe the changes my help,but will not eliminate the drugs from entering the prison,its sad and hard to deal with the enviorment that i must live in when any of the help i offer to my fellow individuals are disregarded or frowned at because they dont want to be sober! (11/4/2025)

491. I can see why the changes were made and I understand why. But in person mail brings us closer to our loved ones than seeing it on the tablet. Just to let ya'll know (11/4/2025)

492. I dont really know how to feel about the mail cause it really isnt going to stop anything there will always be another way to smuggle things in or peoole will start cheeking meds more or they wont photo copy everything right or it wont be clear enough to see and what about books through the mail or puzzles like sudoku or word searches what about are pictures how will we be able to take those home is there on are tablet i dont like how they think there helping the system but it just causes a more stressful enviorment for us to live in and for the peooke who work here cause you cant change stupid but you can watch it get ignorant if they want to help people change there mind sets let us buy beta fish to take care or and stuff to decorate tanks with beta fish dont cost that much and it helps teach people living prison how to take care of something it can boost moral let us buy some plants that dont need alot of sun light or get to big it can give off fresh air and again gives us something we have to look after let us buy some things to decorate are cells with instead of living in a bare wall grey room all the time how is this the department of corrections if there is no correcting going on just people doing time being taught by other prisoners nothing to help there mind set nothing to take them away from this life small things can make the biggest impacts on someone who has to be here day in and day out (11/4/2025)

493. I dont agree with how they handle the mail scanning (11/4/2025)

494. I like the old way tha we received the mail. (11/4/2025)

495. I feels as if you guys are being a little extra somethings just dont need to be tampered

with. (11/4/2025)

496. I feel mail should be ran as normal. its not our fault that the instutions cant control there mail process. (11/4/2025)

497. I think this is a bad ideal and a set up for a major lawsuit (11/4/2025)

498. I do not like it (11/4/2025)

499. This place sucks (11/4/2025)

500. Boooooooooo (11/4/2025)

501. Hate it (11/4/2025)

502. I dont like it at all (11/4/2025)

503. I feel that this is not fair (11/4/2025)

504. Fuck it (11/4/2025)

505. I like the regual mail better. (11/4/2025)

506. I dont like it (11/4/2025)

507. I dont they should change mail (11/4/2025)

508. Yeah dont like it.
(11/4/2025)

509. It's pointless (11/4/2025)

510. Just wrong and there isn't much to say that is nice (11/4/2025)

511. No good. (11/4/2025)

512. Leave the mail as is. (11/4/2025)

513. I hate the way we di mail down here (11/4/2025)

514. I think this is gonna be a bigger problem. (11/4/2025)

515. I dont like havin paperless mail (11/4/2025)

516. I do not like it the durgs is coming from legal mail. (11/4/2025)

517. Does notbwork (11/4/2025)

518. I don't think it's a good idea at all. (11/4/2025)

519. I dont like it. Real mail is better (11/4/2025)

520. Dont like it (11/4/2025)

521. I think its a completely dumb idea and id rather get my mail in person (11/4/2025)

522. I think the new rules are a bit too much (11/4/2025)

523. fix the mail back to the original way it was thank you! (11/4/2025)

524. I feel that the postal mail app is unfair (11/4/2025)

525. I dont like the new change. (11/4/2025)

526. I don't like the rule change about the mail (11/4/2025)

527. Have not recieved any mail and know i have some (11/4/2025)

528. Do not like my pictures to be on my tablet (11/4/2025)

529. I don't like the nail change. (11/4/2025)

530. I dont like it. (11/4/2025)

531. I really dont like that mail scan stuff (11/4/2025)

532. I Honestly Dont Like The Changes Thats Going To Be Implemented But It Is What It Is I Guess. (11/4/2025)

533. ...it's irritating we can't get normal, regular mail no more.. (11/4/2025)

534. I do not like the proposed rule change (11/4/2025)

535. I dont see how mail is causing problems. (11/4/2025)

536. I dont like the new way there doing mail now.. (11/4/2025)

537. This proposed policy change does not matter to those of us whose incoming and outgoing mail was routinely delivered to the cells of inmate agents of Internal Affairs/Intel. This policy will affect nothing in THAT regard. "Scanned mail" , formerly routinely delivered to the snitches' cell , will now be routinely delivered to their TABLETS instead.
The tail is violently wagging the dog with fleas and fur flying everywhere. Oh well !!!

(11/4/2025)

538. I dont like you rule change. I am being punished for others missdeeds. You are taking from me, as if I am the problem.
You should go threw the legal system. To get a law created, that if you send a legal substance threw the mail, to a individual in prison, with the intent to sell or get intoxicated on. A actual law that has some teeth to it, and it will come to a end. (11/4/2025)

539. Although I do agree that contraband in any penal institution is downright concerning, I disagree that the mail system is the sole culprit here. I have spent the better part of 15 years in the IDOC, and mail, I am convinced, accounts for barely a fraction of the contraband entering these facilities. But where half of the fifty states have already implemented some form of mail digitization, it has done little to actually curb the influx of drugs.
Since the IDOC's own recent implementation of a similar mail system, it has had seemingly zero impact on the drug problem. Smoking is a major issue many of us are still forced to tolerate every day, and restricting mail as a result of this is a harsh punishment the rest of us who don't smoke don't deserve. Also, assuming the costs of implementing a mail digitization system are higher than the costs of a traditional mail system, it would seem to me that such taxpayer funds could be better used elsewhere.
Put another way, a proper deterrent has to be a punishment so severe that the average inmate loses his or her desire to bring contraband into a facility in the first place.
Therefore, physical mail should remain a right, not a privilege. (11/4/2025)

540. Although this is a great idea and has validity on the face of it, most drugs currently moving through out this facility are being smuggled in through officers. I have seen it happen twice where an officer hands an individual a piece of paper and then he goes and cuts it up to sell. Like wise this has not sped up mail delivery at all. It is still taking almost 2months to get mail and there doesn't seem to be any catch up on the back log happening. I am currently receiving mail with a more recent post date on it than mail that has been flagged by senders as recieved. For example i was mailed 2packages from amazon and recieved one from a month ago but havent recieved the one from 7weeks ago. Both have been marked as delivered to the facility and both were brand new and within the guidelines approved reading material. No denial paperwork was ever sent so its just i guess stuck in limbo. Im not the only one with this issue. This is a reoccuring and ever present stressor and reality. (11/4/2025)

541. As an inmate i understand why idoc wants mail to be put on the tablet. Most of us inmates dont be apart of the drugs being snuck in the mail and its really not fair for the people who has nothing to do with that. We actually enjoy having our family send us books ect so we have things we can do during our free time. Its not our fault that idoc isnt finding the drugs in the mail like spray on chemicals , there has to be ways that they can discover the substances or chemicals why because idoc makes so much money off of us inmates how do idoc dont have a machine that can detect drugs or chemicals. There are ways things can be done but nobody does anything (11/4/2025)

542. As far as not being able to have my mail except on a tablet is dumb and you know that as well as i do if you want the drugs to stop coming in the prison maybe do your job insted you

punish people that have nothing to do with what is even going on and lets be honest have the ones that were getting high stoped? Of course not and there not going to so have fun with the bull shit you make people do to just get high ... How about you let people have jobs that want them or get them in school if they want to hell any kinda program to let people feel like they are becoming better people but in stead youll make us sit in our rooms 90% of our prison sentence and act like that will teatch us a lesson ... Hope you have a wonderful day (11/4/2025)

543. Books are an important part of rehabilition and these new rules make it harder to get books sent to people in prison. These new rules also create a problem to solve that does not exist. The mail room staff already search the incoming mail for contriband so there is no point to the rule change other then to be more restrictive to the people in prison trying to get books. Books are costly and these new rules make buyong used books or having used books sent to the prison against the rules. This means that a prisoner's loved ones must buy brand new books which cost a lot of money. The idigent inmate, who overpopulates the prison, will now be exploited an restricted from enjoying the costitutional freedom of free speech and the first amendment. Slighlty used books and publishings have educated, rehabilitated, an lowered recidivism for over a century. By enacting this new restriction, IDOC will be eliminating a universal right slowly, ambiguously, and inhumanely. (11/4/2025)

544. Bad idea Feels like invasion of personal space And a way these COs dont have to do their jobs that they are paid for by our tax money (11/4/2025)

545. Do,your job the right way as security professionals,stop making false narratives to justify fucking over everybody for the few dicksandwhiches,that can't be reasoned with or lack the common sense, consideration,and comperhension to understand what they do! When you through a rock in the water you have to account for the ripple effects. You can't tell a child to stop jumping up and down on the couch before you spank them and not spank them when they keep doing it ! So with that being said in regards to my comment of doing your job start taking good time and charging them for drug related ambulance rides i'm sure this will get the support of tax payers and voters!! (11/4/2025)

546. Dont like it. These are peronsal things to us and some of us its all we have. Drugs and contraband will always be a issue lets face it. The ones who dont participate shouldnt suffer. Especially when we ask for the copies we dont get them. (11/4/2025)

547. Every time you all make changes to something ; you dont take into account the people that just want to do their time and go home , you ALWAYS lump us all into one big box and tape it shut. Half the people making decisions have never had their boots on the ground to see or know whats its like down here where the little guys are. You make a decision an leave the staff here to deal with all the backlash that comes along with (a lot of the time) the stupid decision you all have made. And i get sometimes you mean well , but i grew up hearing the saying that "the road to hell is paved with good intentions". I dont do drugs , ive never sold drugs in jail or prison , but yet im getting treated as if i do and as if i have. You all dont really want to punish the people who are getting the drugs in an do your job , youre punishing everyone in hopes of making us police ourselves , but surely by now you know that doesnt work in here. The only thing that can do is get someone hurt. And then on top of it , theres no incentive. Ive veen

incarcerated for 23yrs , i dont get good time ; because i got my time at 100%. So anything i do is for me , to better me , and i shouldnt be held accountable for someone elses actions , because (although not me) it leaves some of these guys feeling like , damn , i might as well be doing the same (dumb) thing that hes doing if im gone get introuble for it anyway. And u cant really fault people for feeling that way. You all wont even police yourselves , because if you did ; half these c/os that work in these places wouldnt be working here. You wouldnt tell them youre coming , ud just show up. You wouldnt send these inspectors that have clearly been paid off , ud send someone that actually gave a damn... But we all know that woyld get in the way of the money youre all lining your pockets with. And after all these years you all still havent realized that if you actually stood up for us , crimial or not , we'd actually stand up and fight for you... But again , that would be to much like right. In all my years of being locked up not ones have i been in any facility where the higher ups act (you) came and really talked to us , the INMATES (unless there was some nonsense going on). If you really wanted to know how to fix things , really , why dont you come talk to the people who live here? And yeah , we all know how time consuming that would be , but damn , by now you gotta know it would be worth it. But who am i but another IIC to you , writing words that will never matter , because im sure no one will read this anyway... Or maybe one day you will , but im sure ill be home by then. But i digress , the only mail i get in is pictures , and they send them through "Freeprint" , and i was told by the mailroom staff that as long as they came/come through a company i could get'em. As far as the rest of the mail process , i no longer have enough time to care. But i do think is crazy that you would rather throw someones things away rather then letting send them home , thats just wrong on so many levels. But again , not my fight anymore. Thank you for you time and whatever consideration you might give this message. (11/4/2025)

548. Everyone should not be penalized for a few people making wrong choices. I know my support system is not happy with me not receiving my mail, they want to know what happens to the original mail after it is sent in and scanned by staff, they are not comfortable knowing someone other than myself has access to personal information..ex: letters,cards,photos ect. Im sure its on the individual in custody's own expense to provide expenses to try and send the correspondence back to their loved ones/support system, what if the individual in custody is indigent? Then what? That is my comment thank you for the time. (11/4/2025)

549. First I will start by saying that the allege changes the IDOC made to how we are to be addressed is all for NOT!!!! if we, meaning other similarly situated individuals in custody are suppose to be (individuals in custody) how is it the decision the Department made regarting the issuing of Individuals In Custody is designed to punish US!! as a whole for the actions of a few? Not only is this so called (Mail-Scan) falsely accuses me, my family and friends of parttaking in illegal drug trafficing and mail fraud by imposing such backet policy that will not only disrupt mine and other individuals in custody of their first amendment due process right to communciate openly and freely with our friends and family because of the actons of a few, or the actions of IDOC Staff who have a long history of bring "Illegal Substance", i.e. drugs into the prison system, so find another way to address the satey and security of any facility without violating mine and other individuals dus process . (11/4/2025)

550. Getting mail on the tablets suck and its (11/4/2025)

551. Get yall corrupt up fuck nigga i cant tell yall corrupt matter as while throw away the mail like you did before!! That a lawsue which one (11/4/2025)

552. How they doing the mail don't make since. (11/4/2025)

553. I believe it should be scanned and given to us as long as there is not anything wrong with it. (11/4/2025)

554. I believe it will be hard because love ones wont be able to send cards pictures to their love ones cuz of the mail issues i believe its selfish. (11/4/2025)

555. I believe that the Illinois Department of Corrections should allow individuals in custody to recieve their outside mail from their love ones regularly and should not be revised. (11/4/2025)

556. I dont like how the mail is going now (11/4/2025)

557. I dont like that shit. (11/4/2025)

558. I dont like the new system. I would like my pictures to come to me still. (11/4/2025)

559. I dont like what they are doing but Im gonna help me self in the best way in life (11/4/2025)

560. I feel like this is not good because (11/4/2025)

561. Honestly,you people are gonna do whatever you want anyways.in any other setting on the planet you would be charged wih tampering with and with holding mail.i enjoy getting my letters and cards from my kids and the fact that for you to do that to me is not a crime but should it have been the other way around i would be charged is a farce.whats next??? Every time a new peerson gets put in a position tondonso (11/4/2025)

562. How are the idiiots going to get high if you take away their insecticide soaked paper? The fits and 'episodes' they have, give some of us joy and laughter. These people are fucking retarded, let them kill themselves smoking that poison. (11/4/2025)

563. How is it that were going to get our pictures from family if they drop them off in the mail and what if my tablet go down how will i be able to get my mail etc.I dont understand why the mail is going this way im lost (11/4/2025)

564. I feel that physical mail is a necessity and the banning it is just another way to gleam extra tax dollars. I have plenty of reasons why this idea is not correct or cost effective. But there are bills already assigned to committees and already passed the house to prevent this from being anything more than temporary (11/4/2025)

565. I feel that photos should be able to be allowed to be sent in from 3rd party (free print

ect.) And we should be able to get books and stuff from amazon or again 3 party place or it we have them checked and appoved by mail room staff officer we should be able to get our mail some of us keep copies of our familys things they mail us my sister sent me a card and i never knew it was going to be the last one i would ever get from here she passed away a week later and i never get to say good bye i think making it to where we dont get our mail will take away from us being able to keep the things that are maybe little to you but big to us (11/4/2025)

566. I feel that its not right because we're only allowed to have the copies on our tablets for 6 months. Also, they get to hold our mail from love ones for 6 months not knowing what these correctional staff is capable of with our love ones info and pictures of our love ones. Just because they work for IDOC dosen't mean that they're all good an don't have bad intentions, they just never been caught for things that they've done. (11/4/2025)

567. I feel that its making it harder for your loved ones to commumicate with you through postage and creating more obatacles towards building the bridge towards reentry (11/4/2025)

568. I feel that it is not a correct thing to do. What happens when the Wi-fi goes down?? We are then deprived of our mail. That alone should be more than enough reason, just that reason alone. But i also feel it is wrong because to me holding a letter from my loved one is a conection (11/4/2025)

569. I dont feel like the department changing the mail to the system on the tablet is fair because if my pictures of my family is erased after a period of time and i have years to do i would want to still see thise pictures a few years from now. (11/4/2025)

570. I already have a lawsuit filed against you in relation to mail. See, Griffin v. FNU Doe #1, et al., No. 3:25-cv-01303-SPM (USDC S.D.ILL.). I am not an Illinois prisoner. I am a New Mexico prisoner. I am going to keep suing you. You want to be involved in my life sentence, be fully involved. (11/4/2025)

571. I AM CIVILLY COMMITTED AS A SEXUALLY DANGEROUS PERSON AND MY MAIL SHOULD NEVER BE TAMPERED WITH IN ANY WAY SHAPE OR FORM. THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS NEEDS TO FIX THIS ISSUE SINCE I HAVE NEVER BEEN CONVICTED OF A CRIME OR SENTNCED TO A PUNITIVE PINISHMENT. THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS NEED TO COMMUNICATED.THE HOUSE I AM IN AND WINGS WE ARE HOUSED ON HAE NEVER HAD THIS ISSUE (11/4/2025)

572. I feel like we should be able too get all of our mail as long as it is checked first. I feel like its not right for everything too be getting approved or pictures and mail thats sent in have too be placed on the tabelts. I also feel like thats taking up alot of time scanning mail then giving it to us because its backing everything up wgen people want pictures or mail from their families that they have been waiting for awhile too get
(11/4/2025)

573. I feel like there shouldnt be any mail changes because thats important to people and every

bodys mail dont have anything to do with the reason there changing the mail process (11/4/2025)

574. I dont think that,the mail being scamned is righ we should be able to get all of our loved ones incomming mail (11/4/2025)

575. I dont think making mail come to tablets is ok for one what happend if your tablet breaks most people dont know how to use tablets let alone what to do then you only have 6months last for pictures on tablet you might want to look at them if you in seg or something you cant due to not having real copy and if you print them regular paper rips tares anything but i just vote againt it all together. (11/4/2025)

576. I don't think mail should leave the jail at all tell the offices to do there jobs (11/4/2025)

577. I don't think its nessasery to switch the mail because some of our peoples don't know how to use the internet (11/4/2025)

578. I believe this is injustice under 1702 subsection mail correspondence,and that i feel unconfortiable because if i recieve family photos the idoc will keep my photos and mail and that inappropreicate and will create an conflict of interest with photos and legal mail mail. (11/4/2025)

579. I feel its wrong to put our mail on the tablet and still not give us our mail when all they is doing is printing it on a screen i think its bias and a way so the officers can get hazzard pay because i have not fell out off second hand smoke yet and a way they dont have to work just like they dont want to give us or good time but they quick to take it (11/4/2025)

580. I feel like its crazy how we getting our mail through the tablet but if our tablet breaks or somebody steal it than we have important things going on we basically ass out on our mail that really weak i understand we trying make jail safe but in order to do that we have to start off with the staffing do we have officer down here that dont bring they outside drama to pinckneyville and enforce it on us because they are having a bad day we need a understanding as a collective with this mail stuff and what happen and what is the respone to when our tablet is broke (11/4/2025)

581. I feel like its unjust with the mail and pictures because i have recieved mail on the tablet but am having difficulties getting it printed out. And with the pictures they get discarded after 6 months and its not right especially when its pictures of obituaries and just pictures that are priceless and we cant get them. These are oir prized possesions and we cant get them and having problems getting them printed. Its just not right. (11/4/2025)

582. I feel like the changes made to our postal mail are not considerate towards those of us incarcerated due to the fact that this is where some people are spending decades of their time locked up. Some people are more customized to recieving their letters in materialistic fashion and can physically hold the letter and read it. For them to make these changes I feel like it wasn't thoughtful and selfish. Also regarding the pictures not being able to be printed out and sent from our loved ones personally is not justified because thats the only way some people know to send

them. You dont know WHO is sending some people their pictures. It might jist be their grandparents and they probably dont know how to do it through a app such as freeprints or pelipost. So your forcing people to change their tradition and submit to societies ways and to me thats not fair. At the same time I understand our opinions are not always considered and whats done is done but I just feel and thought to share a couple reasons why I feel it shouldnt have been changed. (11/4/2025)

583. I feel like the mail that is clear should given to those who it belongs too. The mail is only going to be on the tablets for 6 months which I also feel like that if it's on the tablet then leave it on there for duration of the time the person is in custody if they plan on eleminating the original mail. (11/4/2025)

584. I appreciate the effort put forth to keep these institutions safe and drug free. I agree with the procedures and im not against it, I myself dislike the paper substances that make its way into these institutions and want it to be gone for good. What I am not okay with is that my mail cant be delivered to me in its original form. About a month ago I recieved a letter with stencils in it because I like to draw, and I requested for them to be printed for me so I can use them but the response I recieved was that I need a special form to get my letter printed out for me. So the process of getting my mail printed and having to wait is what i dont agree with, and the fact that I cant have my mail in its original form is even more upsetting honestly. I ask that you all take into consideration that some if not most individuals in custody would like our mail in its original form and it would very much be appreciated if our original mail be placed into property until our release so we can have our original mail. Your new process, I hope to be successful, should slow down incoming mail therefore there would be less to be stored in property as well. I ask that you all consider this proposal and acknowledge the importance of mail from our loved ones in its original form from letters to greeting cards. We are not in control of this but we are human and have feelings just like all of you, the ones who CAN make a change. Please consider this you all are appreciated for your effort in making this world a safer place. I hope this proposal is acknowledged and impacts the prison systems. Thank you for your time. (11/4/2025)

585. I believe it has good and bad advantages to it but truthfully i perfer my mail to be given directly to me if it has nothing which goes against institution by laws.... (11/4/2025)

586. I believe that despite the drug/smuggling issue, if you would like to recieve your initial copy of the mail that you should go through the request slip process afterwards to forward the mail to review/tests. Some people truly dont care that their mail goes to the tablet but the delay has been nothing close to reliable. I also have seen people get other peoples mail on their tablets that was somebody in a conpletely different housing unit. I do understand the reason behind it but when it talks about us losing the mail in 6 months, thats redundant. People in other facilities have had pictures photo copied and they definitely were not on fine paper and they were in black and white. More effort needs to get put into this system, same as the phone system. Some of us rely on that one piece of mail or even that one phone call. It shouldnt be a crappy service. (11/4/2025)

587. I believe that mail should not be uploaded to tablet i think all mail shall be delivered regularly..just IDOC should thoroughly test mail & maybe pursue charges on those who have

chemical laced mail because its strongly effecting the entire prison population (11/4/2025)

588. I believe that taking away phydical mail restricts us once again from maintaining that connection with our loved ones, letters,pictures, drawings from our kids ,etc. Are ways for us to maintain a bond and feel that warmth from our loved ones. It is injust for the many to be punished for the few, i have always appreciated and respected our rights but now this change takes away a little bit more of our humanity. I hope you speak up for the voiceless. Thank you and God bless (11/4/2025)

589. I believe that the changes are wrong, because of obituaries. If there is a way to get one from a manufacturer it would be better, but I don't know of a way. From 2020 through 2022 I lost 17 friends and family to covid, accidents, and other illness, if I didn't have those obituaries or they were only on my tablet for 6 months would be wild. (11/4/2025)

590. I do not agree with it. We would like our original copies or automatically have copies of the incoming mail given to us. Such letters or mail can be sentimental. Also i feel individuals in custody should be allowed to get drawings weather its marker, colored pencils, or crayons from their children. (11/4/2025)

591. I do not like the proposed digital mail scanning. I understand the various reasons for having it regarding safety and security. I believe it will place additional burdens on sraff that could be avoided. There has to be a better way. (11/4/2025)

592. I dont like the changes. I asked that a certain letter and the pictures that were sent were printed out and sent to me. They still have not been (11/4/2025)

593. I dont like the new mailing way i like getting my mail handed to me so whatever me and my family is talking about stays previde (11/4/2025)

594. I dont like it because it takes to long to get are mail and copes of the stuff we want and we should be able to have are mail and pictures from love ones (11/4/2025)

595. I dont like it because if the tablet stop working now i cant read my mail and look at my pictures and also you can not log in at a certain time i do not like (11/4/2025)

596. I dont like this new system i havent recieved any of my mail since it took place and i want my cards and pictures in pyshical form (11/4/2025)

597. I DONT THINK CHANGING THE MAIL IS RIGHT..YOU HAVE PEOPLE LIKE MYSELF WHO GET HEADACHS LOOKING AT THE TABLET TO READ MAIL..I THINK IT SHOULD CONTINUE THE OLD FASHION WAY WITH MAIL.. (11/4/2025)

598. I dont think geting mail or Pic's over our tablets is right i have not done anything my grand babys cant send me the Pic'S they make by hand it haves to go on my tablet that is npt right to many people read our mail when it comes to our tablet it needs to go back to the old way and let me get my mail to my cell (11/4/2025)

599. I believe the changes to mail is an impediment to those who are not educated enough to articulate nor savy enough to actually go in and retreive the Mail from the tablet? Because everyone Is not abusing nor partaking in the illegalities which is/has been going on & This electronic mail/photos what happens to the physical letter/pictures Once they have been sent to our tablets? Do the documents/pictures go back to the sender?. (11/4/2025)

600. I believe the mail change has been a big adjustment for individuals in custody as well as staff. My initial feelings/comments about the change is that it has had a negative impact on individuals in custody, me imparticular. There is now no personal connection from loved ones through the mail for instance. The digital system automatically resets or deletes after 180 days essentially deleting your digital mail, and the mail was slow before, now its an even longer process for us to get mail. Which disturbs the harmony of the institution and breaks the routine, which leads to uncertainty. (11/4/2025)

601. I believe the rules regaurding mail especially stuff that your family can no longer send in like clothing items should not be allowed to stick. Also whats going on with getting our days for being on this app and having so many certificates? (11/4/2025)

602. I believe this rule change is a big inconvience and doesn't function well because I don't think the people responsible for the change thought about the fact that some people would like to be able to go back and review letters of the past and won't have that luxury anymore because the mail is deleted after a few months. The same thing applies to the pictures. (11/4/2025)

603. I do not approve of the mail change cause for one the mail only stays on there for 6 months which is a henderence to peoples suppose legal information family birthdays important numbers an addresses etc i understand people or sneaking drugs in but that should not hender other people who might not have a tablet or who broke it an dont have funds to by a new one yet along $5 to get the right head phones so fo people that only get letters from there family, friends or legal advisors who don have tablet how do the get their mail huh? So electronic mail has a henderence on how people who dont get money to there trust fund accounts or have tablets they have no way of getting a hold of people that they need to such as family friends an legal advisors (11/4/2025)

604. I do not the what there are doing to us. We do know if what they with mail it not right for are famliy and we can not get are pic too people it the real world can get why can we not get real my you take are right a way and that not right. (11/4/2025)

605. I don't believe that our mail supposed to be on the tablets because where is our paper copy going??? (11/4/2025)

606. I feel it is a nuisance and inconvenience to all affected. Us incarcerated individuals value the little privacy we have and the mail we receive from our loved ones. Touching our physical mail, smelling a loved ones scent(perfume/cologne) no matter how faint it is, gives us a small bit

of freedom for a short time. (11/4/2025)

607. I feel as though physical mail should not be taking away. Having physical mail and physical photos allow us to connect better with the world instead of looking at a screen which I have limit access to unless physical mail which I can view anytime. (11/4/2025)

608. I dont think this is ok. My family is elderly. My kids are troubled. Im seriously stressed out that the few words I have maybe from them may just disappear. This just happened to me when you took my tablet and forced me onto this one. I lost my contacts. Messages. Very important messages were just gone forever. My wife passed and ill never be able to see her last message. My son is missing. I cant find him. If I still had all of my digital info available I could still reach out. If you take away the mail what happens to the possible last message I get from my next family tragedy. (11/4/2025)

609. I dont like this issue due legal problems and unconsiderable actions by the department cause they withhold your mail and youll miss dates then when family write you they take the orriganal copys then throw them out then they also search our legal mail and they get away with it and spread our imformation or personal imformation (11/4/2025)

610. I dont agree with are mail being taken awey reason being that my mom does not really mess with the technology so she write me letters so please take that into consideration you probably dont care but just consider please and thank you peace and blessings. (11/4/2025)

611. I Don't agree with the way they Changed to Scanning our PERSONAL mail, as its a Personal peice that is Very Close to our HEARTS. (11/4/2025)

612. I don't approve of the new changes regarding the incoming mail. The letters my people, loved ones take the time out of each day to write to me. Them letters are being thrown away and disposed of. All to fit into a false narrative that is being pushed idoc and its employee's my family isn't all tech literate so they don't know how to order publications and send them in, so if a mistake is made and the wrong book is ordered that's an entirely different obstacle to overcome trying to be reimbursted for the funds adding on to an already complicated situation. These tablets break and we aren't being rushed to have them replace the defected tablet's instead we are forced to wait for months on top of months for replacements to come in which disrupts the chain of communication between me and my loved ones when i can be receiving my mail the way i've been receiving it, during my incarceration in the idoc. I was always told to leave well enough alone and also informed that if its not broke don't go trying to fix it. There is absolutely nothing wrong with the way the postal service is operating and the original way i've received my mail during my incarceration in the idoc. And there are already problems with the way my mail comes on this tablet and i see more problem's occuring in the near future. (11/4/2025)

613. I don't think there's a real danger, but that's only because I am business minding my business. (11/4/2025)

614. I do not agree and it was/is bogus as ever.... (11/4/2025)

615. I dont agree widd it (11/4/2025)

616. I dont think they should stop mail coming inna prisons (11/4/2025)

617. Good idea to keep all the contraband out of prison. (11/4/2025)

618. Convient! (11/4/2025)

619. Bueno (11/4/2025)

620. Good (11/4/2025)

621. I like the rule changes (11/4/2025)

622. I like it (11/4/2025)

623. Good (11/4/2025)

624. Good work (11/4/2025)

625. I agree mail should be on the tablets. (11/4/2025)

626. I am fine with it (11/4/2025)

627. I think this is an excellent change. (11/4/2025)

628. Good (11/4/2025)

629. I like the idea thanks (11/4/2025)

630. Good. (11/4/2025)

631. I think it should have been done a long time ago . i (11/4/2025)

632. I think it is a good idea it will stop the drugs from coming into the prison but they can still make the stuff in other parts of the prisons (11/4/2025)

633. Good (11/4/2025)

634. Good (11/4/2025)

635. Everythink ok (11/4/2025)

636. I think that it is a really good idea. (11/4/2025)

637. I agree what ever is better for the idoc. In God hands. (11/4/2025)

638. I think its swell. (11/4/2025)

639. Good idea (11/4/2025)

640. I like I DOC changes mail to post mail because keep facility safe (11/4/2025)

641. I am good with it. (11/4/2025)

642. I love it.
(11/4/2025)

643. Great job (11/4/2025)

644. I think its a good thing
(11/4/2025)

645. I love this app! Thank yall for providing (11/4/2025)

646. Good choice (11/4/2025)

647. I AGREE WITH THE CHANGES OF INMATE MAIL.
(11/4/2025)

648. I dont get any mail well i havent yet but i believe its a good program because it will help to stop the influx of substances into the facility (11/4/2025)

649. I think it will be nicer (11/4/2025)

650. I agree with the mail process. It helps keep the drugs out of the prison. (11/4/2025)

651. Good Idea, stuff coming on paper. (11/4/2025)

652. I think it is a good thing. Eliminate a lot of problems. (11/4/2025)

653. I agree with the process if it helps the body as a whole (11/4/2025)

654. I think its a good thing (11/4/2025)

655. I think its a good thing to get scanned mail. (11/4/2025)

656. Changeing the mail is a good idea a little late in my eyes a lot of inmates have died because of it. (11/4/2025)

657. Dont know I dont get mail but it sounds like a good idea. (11/4/2025)

658. Good idea i agree. What ever is good idea for the idoc. In Gods hands. (11/4/2025)

659. About time they did somthing about the mail (11/4/2025)

660. I don't have a problem with the changes to the mailing new system. (11/4/2025)

661. I hope it will make mail alot faster (11/4/2025)

662. All i can say is that i think this is a good idea on what the department is doing. (11/4/2025)

663. Good job ! (11/4/2025)

664. Good job. (11/4/2025)

665. I agree with the mail change 100% .
(11/4/2025)

666. I believe they are ok. (11/4/2025)

667. As a nonsmoker or drug user, i thank you for trying to stop the massive flow of the paper coming into the prison system. But i am afraid that the mail is going to become so slow to get to us inside prison that we will get important messages from home long after emergencies at home. How about stiff penalties for smoking. As of now there are NO penalties. Thanks for any effort. Please get our mail room staff the help they will need. But i would keep looking for how the paper is getting into prisons. It isnt all through the mail. Some is made internally. And what about second hand smoke to cellys of smokers. If we handle the problem, we are in more trouble than the smokers. Frustrating to us nonsmokers. (11/4/2025)

668. As right now its very good to get the new information (11/4/2025)

669. Changes that contrbute to the safety of prison life are accepted by me. (11/4/2025)

670. Creo que es mas personal que manden tu correo por la tableta (11/4/2025)

671. Everything being done is for the better of institution. Publications can be manipulated there for any and all, should be direct to tablet device. Thank you for your policy change! (11/4/2025)

672. Everything happens for a reason so yeah mail should be read on the tablet (11/4/2025)

673. Feel this is a very good thing that will be a safer living for all (11/4/2025)

674. Gud understand (11/4/2025)

675. God Bless You, its about time! I think it is awesome, & I hope it has as good as an effect

as I do believe it will. There have been a couple of weak points I noticed, over the past 3-4 years, that these dope dealers were exploiting. 1.) Having their family drop off a package of books & magazines. Inmates knew that books droped off on a visit werent as carefully screened. They'd have someone put k-2 on a few pages of 1 book outa the 5 that were dropped off, and get away. 2) The abuse of legal mail, a more informed approach to the legal mail procedures is a very good idea. Inmates arent worried that its gonna be harder to get k-2, inmates believe that k-2 is about to be a thing of the past in prison. I think their next attempt at getting k-2 in will be on pictures, NO DOUBT inmates will continue to act like criminals! Having pictures sent to someone they've paid to let them have a load package sent in to will be the next avenue the smart drug dealers try. The ignorant ones will just have the pictures sent to theirself. The new mail procedures are GREAT!!! k-2 is legit POISON! Its ashame people need you to stop them from ingesting the junk, but BRAVO!!! These new procuders have alot of guys feeling like hey their gonna enjoy it while its still here, cause finally the tides have turned! (11/4/2025)

676. I agree with the changes needed to keep drugs out of the institution. I just wish staff would understand not all of us are doing that stuff and would handle the scanning of mail the right way. (11/4/2025)

677. I am glad d.o.c is doing this bc i see how addicted these ppl are these intoxicating and hazardous laced paper.they sell of of their things and many families are buying these drugs and dont even know it (11/4/2025)

678. I am satisfied with my Recent Growth,need a better living situation protected. (11/4/2025)

679. I beleive this is a very postive way of keeping contraband out of prisons (11/4/2025)

680. I believe that is one of the best things u can do.Because i don't smoke,also it help on let things to sort through. (11/4/2025)

681. I believe that it has to be done for not only security reasons, but for the safety of the officers and staff and for the " individuals in custody" (11/4/2025)

682. Honestly its long over due! I think alot of other guys dont like it for theor own selfish reasons and some of them i can understand but ultimately I know and we all know that the drug problem has been a problem for a while now and too many lives have been lost including a very good friend of mine and i wish it would of never happened. Thank you for doing it and i hope it helps, truly! (11/4/2025)

683. I feel safer that these new rule changes are in effect, not only it prevents contraband! from coming into the facilities but it provides a convience to recieving are mail via tablet, thank you i really apprieciate it. :)..... (11/4/2025)

684. I agree because i dont like the way these guys make it hard for us who are trying to make a new life by being accountable for our actions. So i am in full agreement with the way things are going with the new mail system. (11/4/2025)

685. I am committed to an action plan of Recovery daily, sometimes moment by moment. I work hard not only to stay abstinence from mind altering, but to understand the underlying circumstances and choices that not only led me to prison, but harmed a lot of good people along the way. For me, Rehabilitation and Safety for individuals and staff must be priority. And mail scanning is not normal but neccessary. (11/4/2025)

686. I dont have much to say other then i hope that te mail thing stops the drugs from getting into all idoc centers i dont think its gonna stop all of it but mabe it will stop atleast 90% thats a big number difference compared to when i came into idoc hopefully things will get better and a big change will happen do i think it a great thing for the mail to come in via elec. The answer is YES. (11/4/2025)

687. I agree on the changes but you need to be watching the following at BMRCC:
Your officers especially 3rd shift and the kitchen workers cleaning the desk at the front windows. Also inside grounds and outside grounds workers. Im sick of breathing the "paper smoking" fumes that blow into our door because staff keeps the gallery fans on so they dont smell it. Im not giving names because i dont know them and i cant even get my medical needs met because the inmates smoking that stuff are acting like animals and we all pay for their insanity such as its Tuesday night, our dayroom has been taken since friday and ive had no shower. The staff makes everyone pay as im sure you all know. If you can watch the things ive mentioned you may get somewhere or maybe not but im tired if all this bs taken things from me and many others because in my opinion your not looking within your own. I pray for a positive result from whatever steps IDOC takes because this is just too much for my mental health to take on. Thank you for listening and although i expect some retalitory events to happen over my comments, i hope to get into the behavioral and substance use disorder programs that i desire and do badly need to fill my empty toolbox with appropriate learning tools, coping skills and recovery thoughts and practices that will give me my life back and after 6 bits, lifes requirements to understand that i can be better and with this recovery tool belt and my toolbox full of positive growth and knowledge to keep it full, I WILL PREVAIL IN MY GROWTH!!
Please get the contraband out of here please/ (11/4/2025)

688. I agree with IDOC taking every possible measure to ensure the safety of the public, employees, and the inmates. Utilizing the tablet system for the viewing of incoming mail, will not only reduce drugs within the prison population but also violence. Resulting in individuals in custody successfully rehabilitating. (11/4/2025)

689. I agree with the overall changes for the prevention of dangerous contraband entering the facilities in question. Also it cuts down on paper/flamable materials building up in cells. It's a good idea in theory if put into practice in a consistant manner. (11/4/2025)

690. I believe this impliment is well needed to stop all this getting high stuff in these institutions. And to keep people safe happy and healthy. Thank you for finally taking a step closer to understanding what our needs are and how to make sure that the people here actually recieve some sort of rehabilitation while they're here. (11/4/2025)

691. I am strongly in favor of the rule change and having our incoming mail forwarded to tablets. The provision that we can request and receive 'hard copies' at will is, and should remain, an important component. Additionally, and most critically: besides the head counts that are performed daily to ensure everyone "is still here", no other function in the institution is as important as mail distribution, (and mail flow out of the institution also). Stringent safeguards should be in place to insure mail is sent to correct individuals, and eliminate the possibilities for accidental misdirections, which have already ocurred. Please take this into consideration. Thank you.
(11/4/2025)

692. I am thankful that this change is being done for everyone's safety and security. I hope to see staff that have access to the interior of all the prisons be scrutinized more closely and effectively to further prevent unauthorized items from entering the prison. (11/4/2025)

693. I AM TIRED OF THESE DRUGS, AND THE PEOPLE THEY PUT IN OUR CELLS THAT GET HIGH, FSLL OUT FROM AN OVER DOSE, AND WE ARE OUT INTO SEGERGATION , PENDING INVESTIGATION... I FEEL PUTTING MAIL ON THE TABLET IS A GREAT THING, UNTIL THEY FIGURE OUT ANOTHER WAY OF GETTING IT IN.,.. THESE ARE THE PEOPLE YOU ARE GIVING GOOD TIME TO BECUASE THEY DONT HAVE A VIOKENT CHARGE.... BUT THEY ARE INDANGERING OUR LIVES AS WELL AS STAFFS... BUT THEIR RISK ASSESMENT DOES NOT GO UP, THE GET JOBS AFTER THEY GET OUT OF SEGERGATION.... INSTEAD KEEP THEM OFF THE JOB LIST FOR A YEAR AND NOT GOOD TIME OR E.P.S.C....,. (11/4/2025)

694. I applaud the department for their attempt to combat the flow of illegal substances into the prison system. However I feel that this gesture is a little bit too late. Their have been numerous incidents that have been recorded as allegedly being drug or substance related. Incidents ranging from assaults to overdoses. Unfotunately for those affected by those incidents, this change happened too late. I have no contentions with the new system of mail handling. I embrace the technology, as it acclimates the individual in custody to receiving mail on electronic devices. A caveat that each releasee will encounter when they are released. My biggest concern is will this system truly accomplish what it was set out to do, which is eliminate the flow of substances into prisons, how will time delays affect the individual in custody and what will be the longterm monetary toll. (11/4/2025)

695. I appreciate that I.D.O.C. is trying to find a solution to the on going drug problem inside the institution. However; I wish, I.D.O.C. would also try to figure out a solution with regards to the lockdown situation. Ever since the Covid lockdown the atmosphere has not been great. (11/4/2025)

696. I feel like its something must be done about the contraband thats coming in an killing alot of adults and kids too . (11/4/2025)

697. I feel like that the way they are doing the mail at this point is appropriate and safe. There has been too many drugs coming inside of the prison system through mail and is causing a

tremendous over dose rating. With them change how the mail intake is clever and very smart. (11/4/2025)

698. I believe it is a good thing,,Because it is more secure and less chance for the mail to have any kind of contraband in it.To help keep the staff safe and nobody being in danger of any kind.I believe it to be a good thing. (11/4/2025)

699. I believe it is absolutely the right thing to do. Me as a nonsmoker, and i dont do any types of drugs, i hate walking down the hallways and smelling burnt paper from individuals smoking k2. I dont beleive all the smoking os gonna stop because there are still ways to get the stuff in. Not all officers are follow the policies and individuals can still get stuff on visits BUT electronic mail is the smartest thing to ever happen (11/4/2025)

700. I believe rules are rules. If cirton things has to take place in order to improve things around here i have no problem with it. Dont get me wrong i would love mail, pitchers, etc. However, things need to change as well. If we cant think for ourseleves as a whole someone has to do the thinking. (11/4/2025)

701. I believe that any and all efforts to stop or control the incoming drugs into the facilities across the state is a great cause and should be given the chance and trial of doing whatever necessary to do so. It is becoming dangerous for all parties involved that individuals in custody are distributing and using the drugs in the facility. (11/4/2025)

702. I believe that the new policy would help bring down the trafficing of the paper thats causing alot of problems. Such as people throwing up every where, stealing from other inmates to pay for their habits in the form of stealing individuals property out of their cells to false a falsifing money vouchers. But I also believe there should be new laws added to the existing laws about having drugs in the department of IDOC, and to punish individuals for smoking the drug in the form of paper and having the drug on them or in their cell. So, I see no issues with the new policy as it stands in the draft as long as I can get my books and magazine through Amazon or another publisher. (11/4/2025)

703. I believe the changes to mail procedure are a great idea.They are actually the changes which I expected to occur in response to a greivence I had filed,unfortunately the mail here at the Robinson facility is continuing as usual. I had to endure an alergic reaction from being exposed to fumes in my assigned dorm.I hope the administration will enforce these changes (11/4/2025)

704. I completely agree with the rule changes. Sadly, inmates are our own worst enemies. Its in an inmate's nature to abuse good things. Personally, Im sick of all the shit smuggled in because ut causes nothing but trouble. Also, we ahould go digital. It saves paper. AND space. Us inmate have very limited space in our cells. Mail and publucations can take up a LOT of space when accumulated. Especially pictures. To be able to read mail, magazines, and look at photos from one tablet is wonderful. (11/4/2025)

705. I can completely understand why idoc has done this . i am currently incarcerated and have seen first hand. Its just sad that some people ruin it for others not being able to get gifts

from friends and family. (11/4/2025)

706. I feel its a good idea for the mail being put on the tablet so it will slow down if not cancel out the drugs being able to get in side the penitentrary, but they have to make sure everything is worked out correctly and there isnt no stalling the individuals/ inmates from getting there mail i a reasonable amount of time. (11/4/2025)

707. I feel changes made are good for the safety of everyone.I just hope it doesnt affect my bible study i am currently doing through Salvation Army. (11/4/2025)

708. I feel as though Idoc is makeing the correct steps in makeing sure everyone is safe and healthy includeing staff and everyone we need to take this situation seriously so that everyday can be a safe day (11/4/2025)

709. i feel as if this is what it takes to stop people from overdosing or dying from spice or k2 or whatever it is called then so be it sometimes in my opinion when you have peoplec in this world who don't have enough common sense to save themselves sometimes other people have to step in and do it for them sad as it is to say also it should be done with the legal mail and all mail because when you cut off one source another one pops up (11/4/2025)

710. I dont mind the changes because if its to keep inmates and staff safe then do it. Everyone in IDOC custody and staff need to be protected at all times (11/4/2025)

711. I dont mind so much the new rule. It is a hassle for everyone. Having the actual hand writing letter from a loved one has sentimental value. But I also understand that it is neccessarry to stop the garbage that is getting in. Seems no one knows exactly what that crap is and I worry about the long term affects it can have on all if us. Digital mail is the lesser of two evils. (11/4/2025)

712. I like it cause it will make prison safer without the drugs being here (11/4/2025)

713. I believe that of the system thinks it cansave lives? Then do it. (11/4/2025)

714. Do what yall gotta do because the drugs are really harmful as well as dangerous..... (11/4/2025)

715. It should help the situtions but it shouldnt take longer for us to get our mail and pictrues because of something they know would take longer it was already a waiting process (11/4/2025)

716. I feel that this can be misused and/or manipulated. (11/4/2025)

717. I have no complaints when it comes to the safety of staff, individuals in custody, and others. (11/4/2025)

718. I have no issue with reading my mail on the tablet. I just hope that I will continue to be allowed to receive books and magazines through approved publishers, and that that will not be

taken away. (11/4/2025)

719. I have no comment because however i get my mail im thankful and the reason the mail changing dont pretain to me i dont indulge (11/4/2025)

720. I like the old way (11/4/2025)

721. I like the new changes. I think its time that they did it. I watched a lot of people od on stuff coming through the mail or on books (11/4/2025)

722. I think its dumb and will cause alot of problems (11/4/2025)

723. I think its good that idoc is doing different procedures for those to combat the drugs from coming into the facilities (11/4/2025)

724. I think it's good,cause the inmates do get a lot of things in by mail,visitations,as well as outside workers precations have to come from both sides of the wall, not just us. (11/4/2025)

725. I think its great that IDOC is stopping the mail from coming in to stop the drug problem but the problem with that is that most of the drugs come thru the legal mail (11/4/2025)

726. I think its not a good idea to take mail from us pictures and letters are very vaulable (11/4/2025)

727. I think its not right we already dont have nothing to look forward to so with out mail what do we have. (11/4/2025)

728. I think its sad that the drug problem has become so bad and i know you are trying to do what you half to to fix it. (11/4/2025)

729. I think its stupid.....
Sorry i just dont like the idea of scanning mail in.... I would rather recieve my mail as it is... Paper copies!
I want my mail as it is when it comes in/recieved.... Paper copy.... I understand why youns want it done that way but if my opinion really matters then dont scan my mail in and make me use the tablet/different process.
Thanks! "A little bit of technogy goes a long ways" # tecnology takin too far/too much technology...
I want to recieve my mail as it is... Easier that way...
What if i have to sign/fill out a paper and send it back? I would have go through another process... Of having it unscanned/printed.... Ill have to wait, along some1 to assist me/I... I just like the old fashion way better... Thanks! (11/4/2025)

730. I think it's the best idea to keep contraband out of
Illinois Department of corrections. (11/4/2025)

731. I think mail should continue the way it allways was especially if the facilty scanned over the documents good (11/4/2025)

732. I think mail should have stayed the same. (11/4/2025)

733. I think scanning the mail and putting it on the tablet is a great idea. The drugs coming in here needs to stop. Ive seen multiple people fall out because of the crap they are smoking. (11/4/2025)

734. I think some of it is a hastle , but its good because it slows an or stops the flow of contraband entering the facility . (11/4/2025)

735. I think that is very good the change the rules for make more change for the prison (11/4/2025)

736. I feel the new rule changes are just, some people have been abusing the rules lately and to keep them from harming themselves the rules had to change. (11/4/2025)

737. I have no objection:-) I hope it will work as well as hard copies delivered. (11/4/2025)

738. I like how they are doing the mail. It stops alot of b.s. in the prison. (11/4/2025)

739. I like it this way im now able to get letters from my familey on time (11/4/2025)

740. I really dont agree (11/4/2025)

741. I really hate it. Its like an invasion on your most private thoughts (11/4/2025)

742. I thank its a good thing . (11/4/2025)

743. I think if it keeps the stuff out good but if not than no good (11/4/2025)

744. I think it is a safe way all the way around. (11/4/2025)

745. I think it is stupid, idiotic, and complete bullshit (11/4/2025)

746. I think it is dumb not to be able to get our mail and pictures from family members it makes it to were we half to use our tablets to read a letter and say we dont check every day to see if we got any mail we wont ever know (11/4/2025)

747. I think it should be againt law for them to copy our mail in any form (11/4/2025)

748. I think it should go back to how it was. (11/4/2025)

749. I think ita a good idea. Im for anything that keeps the drugs out of here. (11/4/2025)

750. I think its a good idea it would be hard to get k2:in (11/4/2025)

751. I think it's a good ideal (11/4/2025)

752. I think its a good ideal, couldnt be better, exspecially so precise and degital its a great ideal! (11/4/2025)

753. I think its a good thing its more easy for us and the staff (11/4/2025)

754. I think its a good thing yet the staff the main ones bringing the drugs in though. (11/4/2025)

755. I think its a good thing,its going to safe a lot of lives. (11/4/2025)

756. I think that we should be albe to get our mail (11/4/2025)

757. I think that we should still be allowed to get our photos (11/4/2025)

758. I think that this wrong. Trlling us we have limitation on our mail. (11/4/2025)

759. I think that we have a right to our mail and that it should remain in paper form (11/4/2025)

760. I think the mail changes should go back to normal. (11/4/2025)

761. I think the mail should be left the same as its been no need to change (11/4/2025)

762. I think the new change will be beneficiary to those locked up (11/4/2025)

763. i think they should not put mail on the tablets because thats just too much to handle and then again our mail gonna be coming late thats not right how they treating us.....!!! (11/4/2025)

764. I think they shoulda kept the mail the same peutting mail on the tablet dont hit the same . (11/4/2025)

765. I think this is a great thing us prisoners to do. I feel it will help some of us with certain things in future. (11/4/2025)

766. I think this is a postive step toward security and privacy, I have an experience of finding mail of mine in our book closet...I didnt even know i recieved it. (11/4/2025)

767. I think this is GREAT. MAKE SHAWNEE SAFE AGAIN THIS HAS TO STOP! The flow of ""Drugs"" and everything that surrounds it is ridiculous i think this initive from the state is a MAJOR step in the right direction. People are here to learn and cope and not recidivise! (11/4/2025)

768. I think this is not a good thing because the tablets' wifi router is always failing to operate. This will hinder not only our mail but also our video visits,and phone calls made on the tablets. This is not a good thing to do. (11/4/2025)

769. I think the changes are for the better good and safety for all people inmates and correrctional officers alike. (11/4/2025)

770. I think the changes are new and can take some getting used to but I most definitely agree with them doing sometging to protect the institutions from any substances beibg brought in. (11/4/2025)

771. I think the mail process is currently making it harder to get mail and takes longer (11/4/2025)

772. I think the mail system is fine the way it is.the process we have to go through now takes to long to get our mail. (11/4/2025)

773. I Think The Mail System Should Stay The Same Way. Its Kind Of One Of Those If It Aint Broke Dont Fix It. (11/4/2025)

774. I think the new change on the mail is a good thing, maybe it will stop all the drugs coming in. I just hope we will be able to still get a copy of are pictures when we get them. (11/4/2025)

775. I think the new mail is a great thing ..not all of us like getting high and smoking whatever it is they smoke ..we should not have to breath it in..i acually think they need to do more to them. You can clearly tell whos been smoking (11/4/2025)

776. I think the new mail procedures are pretty much stupid and shows how lazy the I.D.O.C. staff are, because the whole thing is over liquid forms of drugs being put on the paper the letters are wrote on and the only thing you have to do is look at the paper under a blue light to see if it has anything on it. So, its not hard to do. Its a sad excuse to just control something about us inmates, as always. Its all a control thing with prison officials. It's no wonder why the return rate for first time offenders are so high, its because how we are treated in here. They turn us against people in athority. They dont correct us they currupt us!!! (11/4/2025)

777. I think the proposed mail changes are a very good thing . I think that doing whatever it takes to keep drugs and any other dangerous contriband out of prisons is a step in the right direction . (11/4/2025)

778. I think we should be able to get our mail (11/4/2025)

779. I hope this gets rid of the K2 because I hate that shit.Because all it does is cause problems in these places.With these guys getting high and acting crazy.And the fighting over the money with these guys not paying their debts.Western Illinois where I was at before this place that shit was real bad there.I've not seen it at this place yet.And hopefully when its gone from IDOC the

big tac-team shakedowns will not happen as often? (11/4/2025)

780. I honestly dont have an issue with all nonlegal mail being scanned and uploaded via email. Personally i think its a good idea. Inmate...sorry ""individuals in custody"" spend way too much time trying to figure out ways to get a buzz and/or high or drunk than anything else. Time to toughen them up. (11/4/2025)

781. I honestly think that there are more important things to worry about, then mail. Their are humanbeings that are indanger in Menard correction center, I've seen more people die in here then I have seen in the free world. An the sad thing is that these people/ C/O's are getting away wit this. So yea we are the ones indangered by the staff here..... (11/4/2025)

782. I feel this is completely unessary and is a inconviance now no one can recive there publications from fqmily members when th department of corrections just could run what eve mail comes in thru a mqchine to tell if i hqs substqnces on them (11/4/2025)

783. I feel we should still be able to recive a paper copy of our mail im still waiting to.recive a letter that was mailed to me more then a month ago (11/4/2025)

784. I really dont mind the mail change because i know why they changed it people were dying at a high rate (11/4/2025)

785. I really think you all are doing this shit just to fuck with us. Because the reason for why you all are even doing this was built off of a lie. (11/4/2025)

786. I have not noticed anything in these proposed rule changes that seem in any way unreasonable. I don't have any issues with these proposed changes. (11/4/2025)

787. I feel that the changes are ok and will benefit all concerned. The only thing i see is perhaps going over board on the removal on one,s content. Hopefully we will keep it clean and legal. Thanks for the opportunity to respond...
(11/4/2025)

788. I feel that the changes will be a good oportunity for the correction facilities to find out if it was only inmates that were smugeling contraband in to correction facilities or the Staff of correction facilities ar the ones that are helping inmates to get intoxicated and there is nothing been able to do to take care of that problem (11/4/2025)

789. I feel that this is a very effective and satifactory way to keep this junk out of the facilities that people have to breath and that is killing people finnaly something is being done to correct this problem all i have to say is thank you for implementing something tostop a big problem .. (11/4/2025)

790. I fully understand the reasons that the mail is needing to be scanned, but studies from other states (TX.), show that it doesn't stop or lessen the drugs from entering facilities. Already inmates are devising alternative methods to continue receiving what this program is supposed to

stop. For myself, this is effecting me with delaying / not getting hand written letters. In the short time this has been implemented, I have not received any hand written letters. I have eleven pen-pals and my friends and family that write on a regular basis. Before mail scan I received at least one to three letters a week. Again I have not received any. Requests sent to mailroom asking about time delay between delivery and scanned to tablet have gone unanswered. Bottom line : more transperancy with this program. (11/4/2025)

791. I have been in the Illinois Dept. Of Corrections since May, 1988 i have seen years and years of drug use by inmates and the effects it has on all the population so finally a small solution to this problem is in effect (mail) but you still have staff bringing it in, money is money and that will always be a way to make quick money transporting it into the institution! But this is a start thst will slow down the drug use and stealing from other inmates to support their habits so good job on the changes keep it up and find other ways to stop the flow. Walter Lane, N82063 (11/4/2025)

792. I have been incarcerated for 24 years now. There has always existed illegal substances within the confines of IDOC, however, only with the introduction of this new substance have I noticed a downward departure in the standards of ethics, morals, and living conditions all -- I believe -- because of whats being mailed into certain individuals-in-custody. There is not any other way to prevent said substance from introduction into the department. It may be uncomfortable for some of us who are incarcerated, but there is now no other way. Thank you for your efforts. (11/4/2025)

793. I have conserns. We are being punished for alleged smuggling through the mail. You should also punish staff also. To insure safty at the facilitys mandate that all staff are know longer aloud to bring in anything from home. Paperwork,note pads,food idems,drinks sealed or not. And search officers for contraband better. Such as bras and boxers.Things such as chewing tobbacco is common to see in officers mouths or water bottles while they are on the job. It is a felony to possess this but everybody turns a blind eye. So you have to think what else is being illegally smuggled in by officers. I dont believe we are the sole promblem. (11/4/2025)

794. I have several points that should be noticed with this proposal. I have read the proposed legislation to alter the way mail is handled here in the IDOC, but I find it interesting that nowhere in the reasons for this propsed change does it mention staff illegally bringing contraband into the prisons. The blame immediately goes to the prisoners being the sole errant in this. The proposal even mentions that phones and other electronics are being smuggled through books that are sent in. Even if this was true, it would still fall on the staff in the mail rooms and property offices for allowing it in. The only other option is they are either not doing their jobs or are innept at that job. It would still be the staff's fault for electronics coming into the prisons through the mail room. My next point of interest is the drugs that are being smuggled in through letters. I am never going to deny that this has been happening, and doing so at alarmingly increasing frequencies, however, has nobody asked the question that, if staff in the cellhouses are being exposed and having health emergencies, why hasnt any mailroom staff been exposed? Here at Shawnee, the only mailroom exposure was earlier on when the Union was picketing. Once the department agreed to get these tablets the mailroom exposures magically stopped. I have to note here that I honestly believe that this new synthetic drug craze in the IDOC is out of

control. As a Prisoner with Life without Parole, I am faced with my own mortality every day, and this stuff that is going around scares the hell out of me, and causes me concern for the staff I work and live around. However, taking my greeting cards, telling my people they have to spend additional money to send me photos, or telling me I can no longer here my name at mail call is wrong. I am currently in my 35th year of incarceration and This system has a long history of knee-jerk reactions that punishes all the prisoners for the actions of a smaller circle. What needed to be done was to actually follow the laws already in place, by criminally charging those found to be in the possesion of, under the influence of, or attempting to smuggle contraband into the prisons. You start taking these short-timers good time and giving them additional years to do, and the problem would fix itself over time! Instead of saying that someone like me, who is not a disciplinary problem, drug user, or smuggler of drugs, now can no longer feel an actual letter from his Loved Ones. You who sit behind those fancy desks can never know what the tactile experience means to those of us who are never going home. Another option is actually house prisoners in a progressive manner, and give guys like me a safe haven from the maddness most of us have endured for decades, instead of housing us in and on the same decks as the morons who are involved in the illegal activity. Bring back the Honors wings, but if you screw up on the wing, you go back to stage 1 where there is less movement and freedom. My final point is that all this copying and scanning isnt going to make life for staff easier, which is what they want. It will cause the Mail room staff to claim they are over worked because instead of opening a certain percentage of mail each day, now they have to do 4 to 5 times the work. This will cause the staff to go slower in order to demand more staff to help. Our mail wil be slowed expenentially and once again, all prisoners will suffer for the actions they are not involved in. I hope this is actually read by somene, because you who make the rules need to start talking to some of us old timers that have been around awhile and can see things that will actually work, and not just seem like a good idea to people who are trying to manipulate their positions. (11/4/2025)

795. I like getting mail it give us somethink to look forward to (11/4/2025)

796. I looked through the lengthy document and saw that there was a lot of text that was crossed out. Everything crossed out seemed to be statutes placed in order to protect inmate rights to nonharmful published material (books) as previously determined by experts in law. It seems that these changes remove the inmates rights & leave the decision making to a random staff member at each facility, presumably in the mail room. Due to this, one book may be accessable at one facility & not at another simply because one person finds something within the book offensive to themself. This us unfair & unjust. These changes should be re-evaluated before being implemented (11/4/2025)

797. I myself think its a great idea. Its gunna stop people sending the K2 sprayed paper 'Drugs' in. For us guys who dont do drugs nore wanna be around it also the C'os its a blessing come true. I really hope it stops the drugs from comming in. (11/4/2025)

798. I dont have nothing at this time to comment on thank you for update (11/4/2025)

799. I oppose the rule change. Having my original mail delivered to me is very important to my rehabilation. Having it delivered via my tablet is troublesome. What if what was mailed to me is not fully copied to the tablet? I could miss out on important matters. So if I had to choose, I

prefer keeping the mail rules the same, and disposing of the new rule. (11/4/2025)

800. Family. Picture
(11/4/2025)

801. Ok (11/4/2025)

802. I dont know (11/4/2025)

803. I dont know (11/4/2025)

804. I dont know (11/4/2025)

805. Ass holes (11/4/2025)

806. How are drugs supposed to get in now .
Just kidding (11/4/2025)

807. I dont understand why (11/4/2025)

808. I personally feel like this is a violation of my rights. I am not a individual who is abusing the system to smuggle in drugs, and or other contraband items, yet I like others like me am being punished for the mistakes of those who have. It feels like lately that Illinois River is acting like a Maximum Security Penitenitry instead of the Medium/Maximum that it is. I havent recieved any mail in the last month or more, from either my pen pal Jill, or Crossroads which is my bible study service. Nobody seems to be able to answer me when I ask about this stuff either! I deserve answers and I deserve ANSWERS!!! (11/4/2025)

809. I do not consent (11/4/2025)

810. I personally think individuals should be allowed their physical mail. A majority of the intoxicants coming into the IDOC is coming through visitors and staff. Y'all need to address those issues first and foremost without impacting individuals in custody and their family by only targeting the mail. If there is still issues after addressing the above mentioned matters then we may look into mail and have better & safer screening practices and techniques introduced in to our correctional systems. (11/4/2025)

811. Cant wait to see what happens. (11/4/2025)

812. Ya ,i dont understand abit of all those number act its not clear (11/4/2025)

813. I really don't believe that this new system that you are using regarding the mail process and procedures will work at all. It is still illegal to open and read another person's mail regardless if they are incarecerated or not. That I believe is a law that the Illinios Department of Corrections chooses to break just because of the so called increased risk of drugs being smuggled into the facilities. If the drug issue was that severe then why now? Why not have taken caution actions

before now? The Department cares too much about their employee's and too little about the individuals in custody who has to endure these harsh conditions on a daily basis. That to me is not true rehabiitation being provided to individuals who are incarcerated. This new mail procedure only makes it worse on the individuals especially the ones who are not involved with any drug smuggling. (11/4/2025)

814. I really don't have a problem with the mail on the tablet i'm all for making a change it really helped with the drug problem now hopefully they can't get that stuff in here.... Thanks for making a difference God Bess you. (11/4/2025)

815. As of Most things in the IDOC we as inmates truthfuly Dont have a real say so on what the IDOC does in concerns to a-b- or c grade & or iur mail !!! Si puting out a memo was just a waist of time an resorces (11/4/2025)

816. I really feel tht it has to be a better way to handle the mail situation tht comes from our loved ones...its like one of those situation where u cant allow a few bad apples to spoil the whole bunch.. (11/4/2025)

817. I really hate the fact that their trying to stop incoming mail from home and from others places. I get theres problems at the momment with contraband but that all can be or somewhat be stopped. if you had the right people doing and searching the mail instead of un experianced people just flipping through it then letting it go to the individual. Me being a first timer this wanting to stop the incoming mail is somewhat tough. Letters from home mean alot i have kept every letter since i first got incarcerated. Now all i get is a damn copy of it. Whats next peoples visits with their loved ones because they think their bringing in contraband. The state of illinois and their trump hating governor need to use their heads for once. And im not speaking for just me but many. Quit being lazy. (11/4/2025)

818. I dont now (11/4/2025)

819. I dont know about it scanning mail. (11/4/2025)

820. I havent gotten any mail yet. :(No one loves me. (11/4/2025)

821. I'd like to know if materials submitted to FedEx Kinkos which are printed by them and sent to me would be acceptable as it is coming from a business and not an individual. Thank you. (11/5/2025)

822. If my family wanna send me mail. How would i recieve it on tablet (11/5/2025)

823. If our pictures come from a publisher like freeprints can we still have them for our photo albums instead of them being scanned on the tablets and or printed out on regular paper (11/5/2025)

824. If someone sends me pictures will i recieve them or will they be put on the tablet? Whats the chances of my mail ending up on the wrong tablet? What about holiday cards will they be put

on the tablet? (11/5/2025)

825. If the pictures are coming from the free print company why cant we have our original copys (11/5/2025)

826. If these are just proposed changes, then why has Pontiac already started holding our mail? I have mail that our mailroom has been holding since October 23, 2025, by mailroom person Kimberly D. Simmons (Office Administrator III)! It says that, "mail retained in mailroom for 30 days." However, nobody can tell me (they do not know what to do next) what happens after the 30 days! I thought that stealing or tampering with mail was a Federal offense? Is there anything you can do to ensure that I receive my mail? They will not even give me any information on what was sent! Do I get it after 30 days? Can I file a grievance and federal lawsuit to get my mail? Please help me if you can! (11/5/2025)

827. I'm completely ok with the mail being scanned or whatever will be done to prevent the problem but my question is will all our pictures go back to family / friends if something is deemed wrong with one or two of the pictures? That is what has been happening. (11/5/2025)

828. Im expecting to get some papers from a friend who helped me run and format a law suit through chatgpt. The memo idoc gave us said we can request to have print out to our mail, but i was told this could take weks if not months. How do i get a print out of my much needed mail in a timely manner? (11/5/2025)

829. If a loved one sends me pictures through a company that provides a service to I.D.O.C will I be able to physically touch those photos or will they be uploaded to my device? (11/5/2025)

830. If able to make it to where we can receive our pictures sent from Freeprint onto our tablets and able to be viewed. (11/5/2025)

831. If our pictures come from a real business and not a indivdual what is the purpose of us having to wait for copies. And why do we need to have them put on the tablet. (11/5/2025)

832. If we cant get our mail then why cant we buy books of stamps on the comissary. So we dont have to keep paying double the cost of mailing from the prison. If we can buy stamps and envelopes then we can actually have a grip on the mail we can send if we cant get our mail (11/5/2025)

833. If you are putting mail on the tablet why should you ever be able to take my tablet (11/5/2025)

834. Im uncertain about photos if it would be scanned and digitized. (11/5/2025)

835. In orde to get my certificates off here my family have to print dem off themselves. So if my family send em yall gone scan em n put it on the tablet. Dat defeat the purpose of havin them sen to me. How imma send em to da courts nd use them as exibits for a resentence if my

certificates onna tablet. This control tactic going to far. How bout education programs, vocational programs, mental health groups or something positive for a change. Yall steady finding ways to take from us. What abou the rehabilitation. Y be so focused on ways to discipline, instead of improving. (11/5/2025)

836. Is all of our mail going to be digital now or just certain peoples mail? You have not made this clear. Can we keep our digital mail forever? If not why? Its our mail. (11/5/2025)

837. Is it going to affect pictures coming in (11/5/2025)

838. Is the mail going to be slower. And do i have the right to send the mail sent to me home during the six 6- month period. (11/5/2025)

839. It has only been a month and I have already had two problems with the new system and I can definitely foresee more problems with it. First, I ordered a catalog from Noble Knights games and it comes with very tiny print. When it was scanned, it becamed too small to read. When I try to enlarge it in the app, it becomes completely digitized and illegible. The second problem is that according to the directive, we were supposed to be able to request prints of our photos. I have asked for one and in a month, I still haven't gotten it. I have now had to file a grievance about both of those issues. The third issue that I see is that I have student loans and I need a deposit slip to enclose with my payments. The Department of education sends one, but I can't get it from the tablet. This definitely needs more thought put into it before it is implemented. An additional issue is that my family is helping with my legal work and I need to be able to get physical copies so thati can sign them and attach my legal work to send into the courts. I am most definitely not able to do that with a digital copy. (11/5/2025)

840. Its beneficial but then what happens to it once they are disposed of where do are pictures go?? (11/5/2025)

841. Its crazy because i dont know if im getting mail or not if its not scanned i also recieved mail that was scanned it was only half a page. What if its a document thats scanned that needs to be signed and return byba certain date. (11/5/2025)

842. Its makes the mailing system odd. What do you guys do with the original copies of the mail? (11/5/2025)

843. Is it going to be good or is it just for now because something is not going to go ok for some people (11/5/2025)

844. I thought a new law passed to revert to old mail delivering method. (11/5/2025)

845. I was just wanting to know if i send mail out can i resicve another letter from the person im sending it to or will it show up on my tablet (11/5/2025)

846. I was wondering is it anyway you guys can print our mail out for us (11/5/2025)

847. I Would Like to know how will people thats not allowed thete tablets and people that are in seg are supposed to stay in contact with friends and family. Because they cannot use the phone or tablet so how will they be able to get there mail and read there letters. If Your not allowing them paper mail or there tablets? (11/5/2025)

848. I would like to know why there isnt a section about receiveing personal pictures? Its a section on the list of reasons why they take your pictures (when the mail room takes your pictires) and one of them says " inappropriate " and i would like to know do staff have the descretion to say what is inappropirate and what is not , or are there set standards, if so what are they? (11/5/2025)

849. I would like to know with the change of the rule. If i were to be sent photographs how would iobtain them. Would the department be responsible for downloading and printing them,then i would be able to recive a cipyvthat way. Or not be able tobrecevice photographs at all. (11/5/2025)

850. I would like too now why puting the mail on the tabelt ? (11/5/2025)

851. I would like to see proof of these things happening in Illinois prisons, as well as an explaination as to how they continue to happen if staff is doing their job. Mail is xrayed, opened, searched or at least SUPPOSED to be so HOW are these things getting in? Id also like this information compared to how often correctional officers themselves are identified as the mules bringing these items into the prisons.
(11/5/2025)

852. Just need more help with understanding thats all (11/5/2025)

853. My wife is in logan and i was wondering why i have not heard from her please let me know something thank you (11/5/2025)

854. No mail yet, so I don't know. But wnat'll happen if mail is sent to the wrong person? (11/5/2025)

855. Okay , my comments on mail are When we have to get letters from our love'd ones and friends to put with our clemencies what are we suppose to do? Because they be wanting the original letters not copies, other than that im cool with it to much excess mail... (11/5/2025)

856. I would like to request a copy of the "proposed rule changes to mail" To be mailed to me please. (11/5/2025)

857. Mail already runs about two to three weeks behind, how is this going to effect the time it takes to recieve the electronic version and what safeguards do we have that you are not altering the mail we get. (11/5/2025)

858. My wife and I started a small business called Golden Love, which allows indivduals in

custody to have custom made t-shirts, sweaters, and other clothing sent to their loved ones. The proposed rule change and current policy in place has a severe impact on our business because it prevents individuals in custody from recieving our brochures and order forms. Without being able to advertise and promote our company, I fear we will go out of business. Thank you for your time and consideration. (11/5/2025)

859. So all mail will be displayed on the Tablets (11/5/2025)

860. So how am I suppose to get my mail when it comes in. (11/5/2025)

861. Please can i see my mail (11/5/2025)

862. Question#1: What about Newspaper publications which are mailed in, such as Jewish Newspapers or other such materials? What are the rules cncernng them?
Question #2: What is the best and proper way in which to have our senders mail in Photos? Is it still appropriate to have them send multiple photos on a sheet of paper, such as an 8 1/2 x. 11 inch sheet? Will/can the pictures then be placed in an album where we will be able to actually view them, or only as small squares and not be able to enlarge them, so they can actually be understood? Especially since these tablets are so small compared to the GTL Tablets, as well as the Apple Tablets used at so many County facilities?
Thank you for your allowing us a place to speak our concerns. (11/5/2025)

863. Section 525.146 Retention and Disposal of Incoming Mail Subject to Electronic Mail Processing or Mail Copy Processing, states:
a) When mail is digitized or photocopied in accordance with the electronic mail or mail copy processes, the original documents shall be retained for no less than six months after the date the mail is scanned or photocopied unless the documents are subject to a grievance.
b) Original mail documents subject to a grievance shall be retained until the grievance is resolved or the grievance process is fully exhausted. Though pictures weren't defined in the new amendments under the definition of "non-privelleged" mail a recent IDOC memo states that pictures/photos will be disposed of in the same fashion. To most, photos are personal items from loved ones are cberished & fall under the category of keepsakes, ie. a property item that should be kept for as long as the person in custody chooses to keep them- provided, that by having them He or she doesn't break any foundational departmental rules or regulations, so this new amendment proposing to "dispose of" or Destroy personal photos after six months & only hold the digitized version of the photo on an individual in custody's tablet for six months is wrong. When it comes to personal photos wouldn't it be better to do away with the six mont tkme limit and set a limit on the number of digitized photos a person can have & then allow the individual in custody the opportunity to choose which digitized photos he can keep once he surpasses the established limit or stated storage capacity? We have the technology. Why not take advantage of it? This will enable the justice impacted to keep cherished photos in a place that will cut down on clutter & make it easier for staff to screen & therefore secure the institution from any potential threats. Thank you for your time. (11/5/2025)

864. Send notifications or create a system to notify us when we have mail uploaded onto our

tablets. Label who the mail is from instead of saying unknown mail
(11/5/2025)

865. Should have more brain games to help keep it healthy they are fun and morality (11/5/2025)

866. The clerk of the courts incoming mail should be legal mail due to the high pro se filings and deallines on these filing such as appeals exc. Also the US department of justice civil divison should be because we can make complaints to them about these prisons and they may file on them .also the human rights athority HRA for the same reason and any other place we can file a complaint with. (11/5/2025)

867. Im glad that something is being done about the problem but since books and other items are going to be allowed through a third party we need a connection with love ones with pictures there are third party option like pelipost or freeprint please consider (11/5/2025)

868. Im fine with the changes as long as we can get the original mail eventually if needed. (11/5/2025)

869. If (on an individual basis), you could let us go to property(not for all mail, just once in a while-for a rare letter from a dying relative), to read the original letter, it would be important(on those rare occasions)... (11/5/2025)

870. if its better do it i say as long as we all can get our pictures ,book and magazines is all lobe but if we can just instead send text or messages paying out our accounts to any number whit oit having to go trew complicated sign up it would be brtter and more convinient so for example if i want to send a message instead of a letter i can.just type the message and number and be charged a fee to send it with out having to add new contacts and if they want to respond it could charge them or us and they can have the option to block us or keep messaging (11/5/2025)

871. If you're going stop mail, and specfically pictures, books, and periodicals, from physically entering the facility then allow for the following; Allow our loved ones to send pictures directly to our tablets, and let us decide which pictures we want to be printed out. Apply this same policy to letters as well. Allow us to order digtal versions of books for our tablet, as well as online versions of periodicals. (11/5/2025)

872. Im hoping my photos thatare sent to me along with greeting cards can be put in my property so im able to take them home upon my release and i think what you have done with the mail is good for everyone and a very good safety precaution for everyone in the IDOC system (11/5/2025)

873. Im in the prison, so im in the side looking out. I feel the mail sound'nt stop maybe slow it down, and flag the one's that are talking about any stuff about drugs, fraud or anything that is bad over call's or letter's or text. Wear glove's when going through the mail, just in case, and test mail on randum. (11/5/2025)

874. I'm not in agreement with the restrictions on incoming mail, however I realize that it poses a threat to the safety and security of the individuals in custody an staff, and therefore these measures are necessary. I think the department would benefit greatly if individuals in custody were utilized and rewarded for the efforts and results in combating the issue of contraband enting the institutions. I have a ton of knowledge that ranges from who is bringing it in and who is distributing it among other things. I would be glad to discuss this with the right persons and Join the fight against making IDOC a safer and mre secure enviroment for all. (11/5/2025)

875. I'm ok with scanning my mail but once you finish let me have all orginal copies. (11/5/2025)

876. I'm with the changing of the mail,but what about the C\O's or other staff bring that stuff in. I don't get high, drink or smoke but i go through so much with people that do. What about coming up with one man cell for people like me. (11/5/2025)

877. Instead of individuals having pictures sent in via free print.com or wal-mart or another way e.g. a person having them printed then going to the post office and sending them their self. Make available an app in which people can send pics directly from their phone to our tablets via the app. IcSolutions has a way in which they can be sent.Also if you make the text instant then there will basically be no reason for any mail to be sent. Even making a way so we can purchase ebooks via kindle (or however you spell it) or another similar app would be ideal. Everything can be via an app on the tablet.The entire tangible mail system can be eliminated. (11/5/2025)

878. is a good idea but at the same time the package you still delivery physically is better if property send a call pass to an individual to go a property deparment sing he receive his property becouse many mail is missing the way you doing thank you (11/5/2025)

879. It be nice if we coud get the orginal or at lest a copy of it (11/5/2025)

880. It helps clarify what is legal and privalged mail (11/5/2025)

881. It is good, I agree with these changes because people will be more focus on their rehabilitation, U know, people be chasing drugs and stuff, but will be cool to have a better option with pictures, maybe an app to get pictures straight to the tablet, like the text message's of course. On that way we ain't have to wait 1 or 2 weeks. (11/5/2025)

882. It is much easier, less expensive, and more secure to let individuals in custody to use regular email to communicate with love ones, government agencies, certain organizations, attorneys, and courts. Thus, please reconsider and implement policy that let us use of email on predetermined list of addresses; it will dramatically reduce use of regular mail and lessen job of prison's staff that handles it. Further you may allow to use email for all legal work and reduce use of paper mail to minimum. No other means, such as scanning or copying, will help to improve safety or significantly reduce contraband. Thank you for letting us to participate in this discussion. (11/5/2025)

883. It is understood why the department has decided to transition to personal mail being done

through the tablet.To the contrary,the department should take into consideration on how to handle outgoing and incoming legal mail. On Fri Oct,31 2025 I received a notification on the bulletin post stating that my outgoing legal mail was damaged at the post office,was undeliverable and was returned to the prison. Keep in mind when filing a motion or petition that some of these documents to the courts have a deadline to file and the clerk requires an original and a copy. Without delay,I wrote an emergency grievance,wrote the mail supervisor ,wrote the counselor and had a family member call the prison. Until now there has been no results. When a situation like this arises,there should be a policy to expeditiously resolve the matter to deliver the mail to the prisoner so that it can be sent out to the court without further delay. Can someone please help me with this matter. Thanks. Have a good day. (11/5/2025)

884. It would be apprciated if we could get the. Actuall copy of our photos we hav sent in without them b published to the tablets aslong as they come from a photo print company directly such as Freeprint.com. and or pelePost witch whom print out the photos at there facilty and send the photos directly to the prison from the place they are printed. Thank you for your time (11/5/2025)

885. It would be better if there was simple rules of what is accepted and what would be given to us. (11/5/2025)

886. I think we still should get pics if they come threw free print but yall can keep the mail the same if yall want (11/5/2025)

887. I will like to get my pictures from free print company have my pictures in my cell not on the tablet. (11/5/2025)

888. I wish you would post the criteria of the publication review because it seems so arbituary. It would help greatly so individuals in custody can know exactly what we can order.
On a side note, it would be nice to have certain documents available on the tablet. Such as institutional rule and the publication approved and banned list. (11/5/2025)

889. I would like for you to approve us "Individuals In Custody" to send out any type of artwork within tasteful standards, not just single sheet drawings or portraits. (11/5/2025)

890. I would like the option to purchase a harf cooy of my mail like support letters for executive clemency so they can be included in it. Im willing to pay .15Â¢-.20Â¢ per copy. (11/5/2025)

891. I would likevto get my mail as fast as possible regardless of the actual paper mail or scanned documents (11/5/2025)

892. I would propose compiling a trusted source list that is exempt. I get items sent from churchs, including Bible tracts. I have already been deny receipt of items from said sources. (11/5/2025)

893. I write books. They already make it hard enough getting in contact with publishers and

book distibuters. Now i cant publish a book or get it typed and edited from prison because in order to do it i have to read the copy they typed and edited and send corrections then they send back the finished manuscript. HELP: PLEASE ALLOW CONFIRMED BOOK AGENCIES TO CORRESPOND WITH US SO WE CAN STILL PUBLISH BOOKS FROM PRISON. (11/5/2025)

894. I would like to see an option where when we get pictures and they get scanned into our tablet once we see them we can send the the hard copys home to insure they dont reach the hands of any staff or other inmates truthfully sould be an option for any mail we recieve not just pictures
(11/5/2025)

895. I wholeheartedly agree with the new mail-scan process to alleviate contraband drugs entering the facility. Nevertheless, certain mailed-in items should still be allowed such as correspondence courses sent directly from the religious organization or programs such as PARfessionals-certified recovery support specialist. This program falls in line with 730 ILCS 167/ et seq. that supports Peer Recovery coaches if they complete programs from PARfessionals, NAADAC (National Association of Addiction for Drug and Alcohol Counseling), Justice for Vets training program and Forensic Peer Recovery Specialist. I learned about PARfessionals and NAADAC on this very platform and would love to pay for the course myself but if it has to be scanned, the IDOC is once again limiting real and meaningful opportunities for skills that WOULD reduce recidivism. Additionally, certificates mailed directly from organizations should be allowed as courts and clemency opportunities allow the individual in custody to provide proof of rehabilitation. PLEASE ALLOW YEARLY CALENDARS TO BE SENT DIRECTLY FROM THIRD PARTY VENDORS! Respectfully Submitted. (11/5/2025)

896. Just let us get Freeprints in the phyical form. Thats basically a publication. (11/5/2025)

897. None of these amendments account for the staff misconduct of bringing in contraband. Why not search & or screen all staff equal to incoming mail to ensure safety & security of all. This contraband issue cant be completely blamed on inmates family & friends. Where is the accountability for staff in these amendments. (11/5/2025)

898. Mail should be put on the tablets and on paper so inmates can keep important mail (11/5/2025)

899. Its not terrible but a little better quality would be a little better plus maybe make the picturea a little bit bigger overall. (11/5/2025)

900. Its unfair for us individuals who get pictures sent in because we would like to see a photo copy not no digital copy. (11/5/2025)

901. Keep it the way it was. One reason is people have been gettimg their legal mail on their tablet and didnt know that it was there because we dont get notifications that we have mail when it comes to our tablet. Another reason is that for some people they wouldnt know how to work the tablet so if they got their mail on the tablet but arent used to getting a whole lot of mail they

!ay never know that they even had mail to begin with. Ao my suggestion is go back to the regular mail or start giving out notifications that we have mail on the tablet. (11/5/2025)

902. NO MATTER WHAT IDOC trys to bestow upon Individuals in Custody the war on Paper drugs or any drugs will ALWAYS be a resort to users. A simple and most logical way to stop this simply is to sell Nicotine vapes on commisary or Chewing Tabbaco. Just like when the Government legalized Marijuana and opened dispenseries and sold to the public for personal use. Same concept but people would rather buy a "legal"
nicotine vape that they can smoke openly than buy some drugs in prison. That is the ONLY LOGICAL solution to this problem... (11/5/2025)

903. People should be able to send pdf files (11/5/2025)

904. Photos from 'free print', should be allowed to be given to inmates. (11/5/2025)

905. Photos from vendors should be allowed like books are. (11/5/2025)

906. Provide us detsils on which books we can order from vendors thst are approved including which magz..also can there be away to bring back instant messages?.I believe i can speak fir everbody about the phone mins being free but emails take too long so can we be provided instant messages as it was before i have a friend that stays in different times zone and instant messages will help out tremdously..thank you for your time and efforts to build those ready to be free back in society....respectfully submitted...Nathaniel Fleming -#S08166 (11/5/2025)

907. Receiving mail does not feel the same way anymore and texting should be free to communicate with family instead of using mail (11/5/2025)

908. Regarding your publication approved listing. You need to clarify that "Any" publication or business can send us items through the mail unless they were previously disapproved or limited. All businesses could not possibly be listed due to space on that list due to the amount of companies available to us. As long as businesses comply to your standards they should be allowed. Also no mention of actual "photographs" are mentioned in this amendment. Photos from family and or photos ordered directly from publishers should be clarified. Copies of photographs by a printer is not the same thing. Photos ordered through the publisher including "nude" photos should be included in your amendment. It mentions publications and "like items" but does not specifically say "photographs". This is a problem because the mailroom claims photos are not a publication and creates misinterpretation by staff, and leads to censorship of inmates property. Actual photos from family are important for memorabilia purposes. A printed copy or zerox is not the same thing. An option should be made available to have our family photos tested or reproduced on actual photo quality photo paper. There are printers that can do this if this new policy has to be follow you need to allow us this choice. Not all inmates do drugs in here and should not be punished for the few that do. (11/5/2025)

909. Mail should be proccessed in its original state however those who willingly and knowingly have mail sent contaning narcotics invoke the right to reiceve mail in it original form and there for subject to have thier mail copied and printed. (11/5/2025)

910. Some people like myself have bank/savings/checking account & whenever we have something done through our accounts we get flyers, bank statements from our bank company & those shouldnt have to go through scanning bacause its coming from the bank & i need my actual hard copy of my bank reciepts in case i have to handle an issue with my bank company. (11/5/2025)

911. Many inmates were not aware there original pictures would be destroyed after there photo copy was done,and six months passed. Allow.inmates to pay.postage and provide an envelopes to send there original pictures home. (11/5/2025)

912. Mail, like photos from companys that ship derect to prisons should be treated the same as book who come from a provider since the photos or any other martiral is never in the hands of anyone outside of the prison and provider.....ie....FREEPRINTS...PELIPOST....SNAPFISH....SHUTTERFLY.....These help us stay in touch and feel connexted to our loved ones also it will effect the bussness of the provider who provide severs spciefically for ones who are in prison....lost of jops will be lost and companys will go out of bussness...like when they put the 24 hour dely on the text app....people stop texting whatz the point.....so they had to change that...same with pictures if we can get them why buy them....and lets be honest jails and prisons are the only clients who still order pictures due to our lack of tec.....we do not have the ablity to axcess the cloud....we dont have a P.C Personal computer..... (11/5/2025)

913. Once mail is scan, why don't i have the option to send my mail home at my own expense, instead of destroying my mail? Because some mail have sentimental value that i believe should not be destroyed (11/5/2025)

914. Pictures should still be tested and allowed to be recieved. (11/5/2025)

915. Pictures from publishers shouldnt be included. It shouldnt take 30 years to get mail on the tablet neither a picture dpnt take long. Its honestly pointless anyway, if cons want something bad enough they'll get it without mail. (11/5/2025)

916. Our pictures are scanned and sent to our tablet for only a period of six months those pictures are our only memories of family and friends that has passed away.I would like for our pictures and letters to be able to be stored on the tablet for periods longer than six months (11/5/2025)

917. Our original non-privaleged mail should be returned to sender at no cost upon our request. Copies of pictures should be in color and of good quality and for legal mail the qording in the rule change is that only lawyers ""providing direct representation"" will be allowed. That would sound like i could not have a lawyer who i have not yet hired contact me by privaleged mail simply because i have not yet given him money. I think the wording of this rule should be changed to reflect that any real lawyer can contact us or that the actual rule should change to allow this. By not allowing me to contact any lawyer i want with attorney client privalege i belive it could be denying me legal representation. (11/5/2025)

918. Shotty internet need physical copies (11/5/2025)

919. Since I've been here I haven't recieved any mail that has been sent to me on the tablet or any physical mail before they changed to the tablet and I've had three people send mail to me at this location (11/5/2025)

920. Since the change on mail with IDOC I have not recived mail on time in the facility my family has mailed letters weeks ago and I still have not recived them.I see this is a way to cause more separation with loved ones and the court system.The policy not only takes away our freedom of speach but also censors our mail .We now have to have our pictures of friends,family and children on a tablet that anyone has access to with our pin# and its easy to get and pass around. With that said anyone can read our personal mail off the state tablets with our mail uploaded on. This is a major concern in safty for privacy .This now is causing us inmates to lose our outside support for our release. (11/5/2025)

921. Since this has began in september 29 th. I received mail that day on tablet then again on october 3rd none since and Im expecting some so this is sad. (11/5/2025)

922. Since we are being punished for the actions of correctional staff who bring in contraband and our families have to suffer, we should be allowed unrestricted access to emails without our loved ones having to register with ICSolutions since it is claimed that we can communicate with whomever we wish via the mail system. The statement that our safety is the reason for this policy change is disingenuous at best. IDOC has continuously caused trauma and harm to "individuals in custody" (prisoners) and the restriction of our mail is a furtherence of a pattern of abuse. (11/5/2025)

923. the "mail print request" has turned into a joke at Illinois River Correctional Center. I have sent several "mail print request" to the mail-room here at IRCC. Each of my request was sent back to me. One stated that there is supposed to be a specific form that is to be filled out for thr request of mail-prints. There is no such form, the form we were told to fill out for mail prints are request slips labeled "Mail print request" along with the correct information that is wrote on the labeled mail. The 2nd mail print request i sent stated that i had to write Springfield and request them to print out my mail. I dont know the issur with IRCC not knowing the process for the mail prints but someone needs to let them know th correct process so we can get oit mail printed out off our tablet. (11/5/2025)

924. Id really like to have my mail instead of having to read it on a tabket which deletes after 6months . seems like every time we get somthing new it comes with a bad turn out for something else. Illinois is so far behind on law , security for prisions ajd everything else its getting out of hand it only a matter ofbtime be fore weve fallen into a hole that cant be fixed . its time for a dramatic change . continous lockdowns because of short staff . reduce the population . there only making things easier because its getting harder to run these prisions day by day (11/5/2025)

925. IDOC has restricted mail from inmates. After a month of digitalized mail it was promised that all digital mail would be printed if requested. After waiting three weeks for a hard copy of

my mail i was informed that IDOC has changed their mind once again and refuses to print copies of digital mail (11/5/2025)

926. Idoc is incapable or unwilling to follow the parameters set in the current rules for mail processing and scanning.
Religious mail is denied to inmates. Grievance on same is slow rolled. Inmate requests to the mail room go unanswered.
Scanned mail is misaligned and cut off, not fully scanned.
Requests for physical copies of mail have gone unanswered for six days and counting.
The atmosphere of drugs is unchanged. They should punish those using drugs not the entire population of prisoners.
There are other options of mail scanning. Namely "MailSecur", which purports to see any laced paper and doesn't involve seizing inmates mail. (See Prison Legal News, April 2025, page 39. Hawaii Prisons get new mail scanning technology) (11/5/2025)

927. If publishers can send things why are pictures not coming in from free prints. Also religous organizations have been getting.flagged. please fix this. (11/5/2025)

928. Ifeel that we now will never get photos of love one who have passed away or how about photos all together. Also staff don't want to do the job thwy got yet now although the mail already slow we got to depend on people just want to get paid they hate working and take it out on us daily. They say do to drug jails have been being built since the 1800's and it has always been drug sex and other forns of some illegal activity. Staff lie all day . Case and point we on lockdown every thrusday friday sat sun. The officerget mad about us aaking daily hey we on lockdown or any other questiontheyget pissed cause we asking. But tjey got a whole pa system tjat they can use to let us know if visit canceled or any other. Yet they want use it unless it is for bad. Like hey you stop this or that they want even use it to annonce movement we got to scream whats going o. And the fact is it will not stop nothing. As the world changw so does everything else (11/5/2025)

929. If your getting religious material that can be checked that it is a lagit foindation that sends material accross the country like the tabetian one put on my tablet now, is a well known foundation. Relious material that is known as such, should stay as such. And in all my time in confinent, It will not change 5.0 will look for that $ as well when.you stop the mail. I have already seen 5.0 involved in Menard with this, it will happen in the all. (11/5/2025)

930. In regards to legal information or material,it is not the same having it through a screen.For example,I want my brother to print out some legal research from an AI technology source that he has,That material should be copied and handed to me in Tangible form to study effectively. (11/5/2025)

931. In Robinson they are still denying us mail for the reasons they were denying it for when we were receiving it. If they're making copies why are they denying it for stains on letters we'll never actually receive? (11/5/2025)

932. It is a fedral law for us to have our mail. We cant take tablet home.or anything so our

mail will be lost one day . we should be able to get our mail once we leave prison . mail cost money n feel the prison is taking advantege of our familys money by not giving us our mail. (11/5/2025)

933. It is against the law to do that. By changing a mail it keeps us more away from our loved one , and i have a out date it dont help me at all mentally. (11/5/2025)

934. It is an unfortunate side effect of this new policy that I cannot possess my own mail. If my tablet goes down or i go on C grade, my digital mailbox is confiscated, further removing me from my loved ones and support. I understand that I can supposedly request my mail to be printed, but here at Taylorville, those requests go ignored and unanswered. Furthermore, what if I wish to save cherished notes and cards as memories? This policy results in the destruction of handwritten momentos I may receive from my loved ones. It's a real bummer, actually... (11/5/2025)

935. It is EXTREMELY INHUMANE to DISALLOW an Inmate's Family Members' from bringing them Books/Magazines/Other Periodicals' during In-Person Visits!!! (Where is this Prison located---The USSR???)
(11/5/2025)

936. It is not good because they are not puttin the name of the person who sent you mail on our bulliten it say unkown and they are not keepin them in order and when we request copies they do not give us copies of our mail we should go bck to regular mail nd just have the facilty copy our original and send us copies so we can physically keep our copies for as long as we want (11/5/2025)

937. It is taking way too long for mail trying to do this electronically. Contraband comes through the prison more from staff than mail. I would like to have my mail. (11/5/2025)

938. It is very different and I miss receiving actual mail. (11/5/2025)

939. It is unconstitional for the mail to not be given to any individual that is in custody of the Illinois department of corrections. This was never passed by the house or senate and infact was voted on and disagreed in bipartasin by the legistlation. This is something that I.D.O.C. has taken upon themselves to do. (11/5/2025)

940. It is unconstitutional to take away incoming mail from individuals in custody. This process has slowed down legal mail. I think that this new system that idoc is implementing should be a punishment to individuals who's mail get caught with contraband. Please take this into consideration. (11/5/2025)

941. It should be unconstitutional because we have a certain amount of time until our pictures thats sentimental value to us will be destroyed after a certain time which is wrong and not right (11/5/2025)

942. It sucks family cant send me books or magazines anymore (11/5/2025)

943. Item 6 in the document IDOC provided says it all: no published reports or studies or data were used in crafting the proposed changes. So, the proposed changes are not fact-based, they are reactionary and based on guesses. IDOC is impacting my life negatively and unnecessarily, again, without having anything factual to base it on. (11/5/2025)

944. Its a freedom of speech violation to take our mail from us if you can find ,or know what you are looking for how are you. Going to take our mail privilege away from us when you dont know what you are looking for
(11/5/2025)

945. Its completly a waste of time. I dont know about.other facilities but here at Shawnee C.C. the mail always late before and things get "lost" Costantly. Further more we are allowed to request our mail to be printed as well as our incoming pictures cards ect... The turn around time on the request has been 3 weeks and counting an I have submitted aditional request to get my mail printed folliwing the procidure demanded by the facility and it still does not get done. It does nothing or nearly nothing to remove the "drug" issues. Most narcotics brought into a facility are done so by staff. This is an absolute waste of time, resources, an ove taxing an already poor mail system causing further delays woth love ones. It removes the human sentiment and connection real mail gives. Kinda crazy for a stste that "cares" about keeping family connected. Just another Illinois scam to shift money from one pocket to anoter pocket while shafting those.who its "suppose" to help. In short Shawnee C.C. is a joke of an institute and the moey and resources can be better spent helping the individuals with programs and better staffing of those who care. (11/5/2025)

946. Its extremely frustrating. I dont understand how a small drip of dirt can prevent me from getting mail, but somehow theres a concern about drugs getting through? Also, it already isnt being done logically. I get one piece of religious mail being treated like legal mail and another one is scanned in? Plus, theres no way to print it according to our facility. You already treat different risk people differently, why not manage mail the same way? If youre REALLY worried about drugs getting through, get a drug sniffing dog, and restrict people's mail that deserve it. (11/5/2025)

947. Its Hard For Us Cause Your Not Taking In Consideration Of People Thats Not Doing Things That You Saying That They're Doing Like For Example Why Can't I Get My Loved Ones Obituary Because Its On The Tablet And If I Do Get A Photocopy Of It Why Can't I Send It Back Home Cause All IDOC Is Gonna Do Is Dispose Of It (11/5/2025)

948. Its more of a headache & its also to time comsuming!! Lets just say my mail gets here on a certain date (IT'S HERE ON THAT DATE) but due to all the ""Now"" restrictions ect; its just not a solution to anything at all to be honest (11/5/2025)

949. Im here in idoc now if they went by the standard they made all the mail that was mailed out before september 30 2025 we would recieve it ok but its kinda harsh will getting treated lile we are federal imates in we are not.instead finding away to keep the drugs out so we keep mail they shut our mail down its very unfair (11/5/2025)

950. Its not a good program. They said we can get the mail printed if i wanted copies. I cant get no copies of my mail though (11/5/2025)

951. Its not a good thing because the lawmakers did not pass the bill for idoc to use scaner for our mail. And they not giving our mail to us when we ask for a print out for our mail (11/5/2025)

952. It's not good because I tried to get my egal docments that came back from the clerks of the circuit court that posted on the tablet at menard correction facility and I was told by the east cell house correctional officier that this institution didn't have any so now I can only greivance it. (11/5/2025)

953. Its not good for publications & religion correspodnce or any education homework thru the mail to be on the tablet & thats what they are doing here in menard.c.c & that stop us from proceeding with our classes (11/5/2025)

954. Its not posted on our bulletin no mre they took it down and i ve been waiting almost a month to gwt a copy of my mail (11/5/2025)

955. Its not fair to put thee individuals in custody mail on electronic screen!!!! Do to whatever they whats goin on with the!!! This is a way for pencil pushers to show how evil they really are!!!!!!!!!! (11/5/2025)

956. I truly believe that it will only prolong individuals in custody of recieving mail from family and friends even longer here at graham cc because as of this moment it takes 30-45 days to recieve mail from the mail room. (11/5/2025)

957. I truly think this is unfair to inmates who stay out of trouble. Many of us do follow the rules. I believe the new restrictions put in place should be applied to only people caught with drugs or electronic contraband, people who are legitmately being investigated for drugs, phones, etc...or anyone in C grade. Ive been locked up 32 years, and have seen several inmates put on mail watch. The same rationale should be applied in the new restrictions. It is a damned shame I can't get drawings from my grandchildren because some people smuggle drugs in that way. That is sad, and so unfair. John Martin K53887, Centralia. (11/5/2025)

958. I truthfully believe that IDOC is punishing everyone for a small percent of people doing wrong. I say when making big decisions such as taking everyones mail away for the reason they did was outrageous and unconstitutionally.Lastly i would like to end by saying look at the facts of there is no evidence to suppport the false claims of thing coming through the mail sucessfully or and correctional officers passing out if that was true the people at USPS the postal service wouldve been passed out or flagged any weapon once mail was proccessed through their system of getting the mail from indivisuals in the world to indiviauals in custody . If everyone does thier job we wouldnt have this issue. (11/5/2025)

959. I would like clarification on the term of "prompt delivery of mail", whether it is delivery of scanned mail or delivery of publications. According to Webster's Dictonary, prompt is defined

as without delay or on time. Since this new procedure for the mail started, I have not recieved any of my monthly publications. They are woodworking magazines that are not on the banned list. It also took almost a month to get scanned copies of birthday cards. To me that does not fit the description of prompt. (11/5/2025)

960. I would like the original mail my family has paid there hard earned money for. (11/5/2025)

961. I would like to get my mail rather than it be copied. Its a better feeling than just looking on tablet for mail. (11/5/2025)

962. I would like to keep the same mail system the mail is already slow and backed up. If the mail came onto the tablet and is scanned then it would take even longer and unnessary (11/5/2025)

963. I would like to say that im not with changing the mail why because my family dont have the resoure to send me things through the company and when my kids send me something it takes away the real feelings of love and that when i get the pictures of my live ones i would love to see and hold the real picture in my hand i know that its some people that do some bs but some of guy and women stay of the way please take this and really think about what your taking from people that have life in these places and dont know how to use a tablet it going to be hard please dont make life for them harder (11/5/2025)

964. I think you should be aloud to get pictures from family and friends. (11/5/2025)

965. Need to be scanned and uploading to our tablets in a timely matter or it will just cause problems with communication between indiviauls in custody and loved ones (11/5/2025)

966. New mailmprocess will slow our mail and we will not be receiving it for longer periods of times.When currently it takes 14-21 days for us to receive our mail and that is when it have been delivered already to the institution.Now with this we all are affraid that it eill take longer than that.Also that having it in our possesion we can go back to it and have all and any information that might be there,right at our hands.With having it in our tablets we only depends on the system/wifi conextion,etc.Which at any point that staff or administration might want to retaliate for whatever reason as they are known to do,they will take our latters and/or documents away just with the touch of a button and then they can always blame it as it is a system failure and that there's nothing that they can do about it. (11/5/2025)

967. Mail needs to stay on the tablet indefinetly not 6 months there is people doing life here what is 6 months gonna do
(11/5/2025)

968. Mail on the tablet is not private anymore and i think thats really wrong. (11/5/2025)

969. Its unfair that every individual has to be restricted from recieving physical mail. Not everyone is a drug user. Letters and photos from loved ones are fundamental specially in our

situtation being away from home. (11/5/2025)

970. Let us get all of our mail the inmates who want smoke drugs charge them to the max the inmates who dont smoke take away our mail (11/5/2025)

971. Personally, i think the change to the mail system is bullshit. For those of us who do not have anything to do with the drugs and bullshit thats being sent in...we have to be punished & have our familys reroute pics and whats going on. It is just another way IDOC has their claws on all of us. So there is my opinion (11/5/2025)

972. Please consider going back to the original way mail was handled. Whatever you all decide to do still won't prevent drugs from getting/coming in. Like the saying goes: if there's a will then there's a way. Clearly drugs has been getting in the facilities in other ways than through the mail. The way you all are doing the mail now, has been very complicated, and we're (the incarcerated) are the only ones suffering mentally and emotionally behind it. (11/5/2025)

973. Punish the majority because of the actions of the few that are abusing the mail services! Really nothing new with how the Department Of Corrections has operated from atleast the time that im personally able to account for ! (11/5/2025)

974. Its not rite or fair we dont get to get over kids drawing,an the wait time is really slow (11/5/2025)

975. Its not right to post mail on screen as if this is a federal facility what if i want to check my mail and pictures around midnight and cant accesss it because the kiosk is off at a certain time that is a part of our rights according to the FRCP (11/5/2025)

976. Its not slowing down the drug use whatsoever which is blatantly obvious due to the continued episodes and code 3 incidents daily. Also recieving physical mail and photos is one of the only luxuries alot of men and women in idoc have that is meaningful from their families. This is just one more knee jerk overreach being unduly implemented on incarcerated people that dehumanizes and oppresively takes away their rights and the will to be productive members of this so called society. There is no real safety being produced in this proccess and will not help the current epidemic of drug use in illinois prisons. (11/5/2025)

977. It's not right to punshe everyone for what the few do it's already so hard to get book's /mags/monga in because they restrickt everything so much are they sipmley don't give you you're stuff when it is sent to you and you know that it was delived to the prison (11/5/2025)

978. It's terrible. They've already started scanning my mail. According to the memo, if you want a copy of your mail free of charge, send a request to "Mail Print Request" with the number written on the envelope! I sent a request on Oct. 9th 2025 and have'nt received it. I received another letter scanned and sent to my tablet, and I requested a printed copy free of charge. I requested the 2nd. letter print out on Oct. 21st. 2025, and notified the "Mail Print Request" department about me not receiving my Oct. 9th. 2025 print out. I only have 2 letters for them to copy and send me. Its now Nov. 4th. 2025 at 7:44 pm and I received neither of my letter print

outs. I received 2 books on Oct. 29th. 2025. That was great, the only thing is that they did'nt send me the 2 comics that were sent along with the 2 books that I did receive. Then to top it off, I sent a request in and asked about them, because I never received till today at 7:50 pm neither the 2 comics or the paper saying why I could'nt receive them. (11/5/2025)

979. Its sad we cant have our mail or photos ext....in hand...this whole drugs on mail thing has been nothing but hell on me in my family my family spent over $100. To send me in inportent papers for the bord and courts but because doc thought there could been something on them the sending in holding back in forth took not only $100 so dollers but over 4 months to finllly recive what was needed months ago but i understand because this shit these guys are smokeing has got to be killing them am forced to have to smell there shit and wake up with headachs and am sick when shoukdt be so all thow this has been nothing of any help to me so far lets hope this slows down the toxic bug spray drug down because this is the worst iv ever seen it and it only seems to have gotten worse in the last few weeks so yaa hate that my mail in pics have to be delayed and on a tablet now but times change things change saddly i understand and agree that something needs done to stop this toxic drug takeing over idoc (11/5/2025)

980. Its wrong our family should be able to mail us pictures,books,magazines. We should be given the physical copy of our familys letters and cards they have sentimental value.on top.of that the prices of the streaming on ics tablets are way too expensive 5.00 for 6 hours spotfiy top streaming service in society is ulimated streaming 40.00 a month then idoc says its doing it changing the mail to stop drugs from coming in but their not offering more substance abuse counsleing in their facilities its ridiclous (11/5/2025)

981. Its.already hard for inmates to get thei mail it takes a long time the regular way now it take even longer if you even get it at all and why cant our lived onew snd us books and magazines if you think drugÃŸ arr playing a part then its the idocs job to find them and catch them from entering the facilaties (11/5/2025)

982. I've been waiting on pictures for over 3 months from my family now an i still have not recieved them. I understand the process they go through before being giving to us. The pictures I am not recieving all are being sent from the actual photo company. They have not been tampered with at all. I really just want my pictures my love ones paid their money to get sent to me through (free print). I've been notified months ago that my pictures are here at this facility bu i still have not recieved them. Please help if you can. (11/5/2025)

983. Ive had two conplaints regarding the new mail policy.
First, ive recieved two documents that ive been required to sign and return to the sender, now that the documents are not formatted to properly sign(pdf) any electronic format, i dont have any way of conplying with the coorespondence properly.
Secondly i had mail returned to me because i provded the postal office an invalid address. After resolving that error i woud like to resend my letters to the appropriate address but i am unable to do so because they didnt return the mail even though it came from an Illinois Prison, and was unopened when returned, i wrote a very personal and lengthy letter i would like to see it get delivered.. Im unable to get my original letter retured to be able to modify and resend appropiately. I appreciate any possible remedy because i understand it from IDOCs perspective

to eliminate contraband, however it hinders my ability to use the coorespondence procedure.
T. Trail #S14057
Sheridan Correctional Center
4016 East 2603rd Road
Sheridan Illinois, 60551 (11/5/2025)

984. I've recently been waiting a week and a half on a tv guide that comes every three weeks,i currently pay for a yearly subscription.according to their memo it should be delivered promptly and i've had no issues before the new implementations to receiving mail in a timely manner,in fact my tv guide comes three days before my tv guide is over. I've also been waiting months for letters that come weekly,i believe they should hire more employees to sort and process mail or hand over the duties to an outside entity. I've requested printed copies of my letters as well before they are erased after six months,to be told they aren't doing printed copies until they are caught up on regular mail and have access to a color printer,my opinion on this would be why implement digital copies of our mail before having enough people and the proper tools to achieve promptness. They have been months behind for years so how do they expect to get caught up? (11/5/2025)

985. I've tried mutiple times to get the mailroom to understand how Inmate Photos mailed things into Taylorville. I've wrote MULTIPLE request forms explaining the process that Inmate Photos uses to send photos and then was talked down to like I was making it up. Sad part is my fiance and I did are due diligance by calling Springfield, Inmate Photos, Taylorville mailroom, and further more I myself talked to 3 sergents and 1 major here in Taylorville and the mailroom still would'nt give me my photos sent from Inmate Photos. This is uncalled for in many diffrent ways. My fiance even called Springfield and Inmates Photos AGAIN and was told Taylorville WILL give photos to the inmates and still I have not recieved my photos of my daughters Homecoming. This isn't that hard. To top it off Inmate Photo even called Taylorville about this and still no pictures on my end just rude people in the mailroom. (11/5/2025)

986. Mail on the tablets are being returned to family instead of being put on the tablets REGARDLESS of reason for the mail processing and rules for example if the mail has a small amount of glitter on the mail we do not get it sent to our cells we get it sent to our tablets so why return it back to the sender theres no reason why it cant be processed threw the tablets that is completely BS this should not matter anymore because any and all mail is being sent to the tablet. We have the right to mail, right? So give us inmates that right to our mail from our family. Some of us cant call our families so our only connection to our family is threw the mail and now we cant even get that so what can we do inorder to get our rights back to recieve our only connection to the outside like family and friends... (11/5/2025)

987. The mail quallity sucks and they dont upload it correctly. Also the faclity sennds mail back that should be allowed (11/5/2025)

988. The mail room doesnt copy photos in color. If the photos could be scanned and added to the album app that would be better. Also, if we could just send email because there is no tech support that help people sign up for the texting. (11/5/2025)

989. The mail room isnt sending us pictures that come from outside companies like free print, or inmate photos. (11/5/2025)

990. The mail room needs to let us know what publishers are and are not approved where we can and cannot order our books. And they told us any thing post marked after Sep.30, 2025 will be scaned. My photos came before that date and they scanned my photos. I had requested for copies of them and still have not recieved the printed copies of my photos. This new mail system is backing up the mail room to where we are not getting our mail for up to two months after it arrived at the prison. This new scanning mail system is not working out the two people in the mail room can't agree with each other on what is or isn't approved so that delays everything as well. They need to go back to the old system. Because your keeping us from getting our mail in a timely manner. That is not keeping us in touch from our loved ones on the outside. (11/5/2025)

991. The mail process here in Danville Correctional Center is out of order one day individuals in custody recieving photos on the tablet (FreePrints,PeliPost,ShutterFly etc.)then if i have one photo that against facility rules everything get sent back DAN Correctional Center dont follow IDOC guidelines due to mail so this survey doesnt apply to DAN C.C prisoners. (11/5/2025)

992. The mail process now is horrible. They delete ypur mail without your consent. I cherish my mail i should not have to write you to print my mail seeing that if you gave me my mail i can hold on to it aslong as i want. You deleting my mail for what reason. The drugs or contraband is not coming throught the mail and if it is we should not be held acountable for ILDOC not being able to do their job. Your supposed to be trained professionals an be able to find illegal xontraband before it reachs IIC or as it comes in. Seems like this is another way to mentally mess with people. Mail has sentimental value to it. You giving me a copy takes that away. Also i have written three times to have my mail printed an i still have not gotten my mail printed. Also takes longer for the mail to be processed. And the books and magazines what if my family doesnt have money to buy me new reading materials, now i cant have used reading material from the outside. The security measures need to be stricter for staff and make sure that the people in position are actually doing their jobs. (11/5/2025)

993. The Mail Is ok, but what about lets say, someone like me is trying to get his CDL, and I can't recieve the CDL book?
What bout Like me trying to get comic books sent in from an overseas mail carrier? (11/5/2025)

994. The legal mail coming in the same way should be photoed as well . So that everythings on time and nothing gets lost . (11/5/2025)

995. The mail being on the tablets is really not that bad except for the fact that when they scan it on the tablet you have to read it upside down. The pictures is really the worse thing because us being locked up for a long time we want our pictures in photo albums. The clarity of the pictures are not that clear on the tablet and dont no one want a print out of they pictures. I understand the problem with the drugs and contraband but really taking our mail away is not really going to stop nothing. (11/5/2025)

996. The mail change is detramental to us all. Not only am I not getting any mail at all, what I

have gotten is post marked months before the change was to occur. I no longer can hold pictures of my lived ones, or calm my night terrors with photos of my children. The tablet wont allow me to sign in or view any apps after midnight until after 6:00am. This is mentally abusive as now Im forced to attempt to "cope" with the horrendous conditions in which Im forced to live without a singke tangable, grounding thing from those I love. No where have Iheard of the USPS stating its employees are indanger from Individual in custody mail. If the staff that handles our mail before it reaches or facility is fine, how is it the staff here is "effected"? Its simply not true, drugs do not come through our mail from our 5 year oldchildrenand 89 year old grandparents. It is IDOC staff, and Officer Johnson who was recently fired due to methamphetamine charges is an excellent example of how and why drugs enter facilities: its DOC staff! Not in any way shape or form my mail. (11/5/2025)

997. The mail change is wierd. I see so many inmates still getting mail. I don't think it's gonna change anything. First the phones, now the mail. I can't wait to see what's next. (11/5/2025)

998. The mail change isnt completely done yet an they're still taking their time with our mail we be waiting for a long period of time for our mail (11/5/2025)

999. The mail changes do not tale into consideration those attepmting to process their Veteran Claims, Appeals We have to send and receive mail from the Department of Veteran Affairs, in a timely fashion. We need to send and recieve medical records Appeal reviews, etc. and we need paper copies to be sent and received. This new mailing proposals makes it next to impossible to do the aforementioned or to do it in a timely fashion (11/5/2025)

1000. The K2 issue steams from staff not implementing already existing rules, such as smelling smoke and writing disciplinary reports, putting people in segregation for contraband, etc. Instead of this, the C/O unions have capitalized on this issue to influence legislators to take our mail rights away, claiming drugs are only coming in through the mail. It is an established fact according to PLN magazine, that every state which implemented this mail ban policy has NOT seen decreased drug issues in prisons. The drugs arent solely coming in through the mail. Compromised staff members are a chief cause. Furthermore, this rule change extinguishes family contact such as hand drawn pictures from kids no longer allowed to be physically handled by parents in custody. It is also a contradiction for democrats who claim to stand for the least of these to take away from those same people, all the while ignoring evidence that refutes a bad policy change. (11/5/2025)

1001. The drug is coming in in the leagel mail. They are useing fake headeders on the mail (11/5/2025)

1002. The drug problem is the administrative problem and correctional officers problem the walk by people when there high cause yhey dont care. Ive seen three correxticnal officera get walked out of centralia correxticnal center aince i have been here in 18 months. Run the camera footage back ive watched c/o let them flopp out on day room floor in there cells hallways ect. Tell your officers to do there damn job! And if you guys atart paying attention and look at what that ahit looks like it aint coming in through the mail. Yall are so stupid to think yhat my family

sending thinga through the mail and at the end of the day if it was coming yhrough the mail the is a lack of idoc staff members failing to do the damn job so yall should look in yhe mirror before putting this on our family and punishing us by taking our mail its federal offense fuxking with mail.. And this problem in theae facilitys is a failure in your so well paid idoc correctional officers. Tell them to do there damn job instead of being a bunch of lazy bums. They dont treat ua at health care ive been here 18 months and got cancer and cant get any treatment nor medication. Ive been here 18 montha and cant get no job! Ive been here 18 montha and got denied all programs this prison offers. Ive been here 18 month and been denied yhe right to freely practice my religon. Ive been denied drug treatment classes schooling joba health care yhe feed us the sr three things all the time three times a week. Now your takimg my mail all these problem in yhese facilitys is due to lack of c/o's soimg yhere jobs last week centralia let my friend marty morrison die of ipedex bursting then want to blame it on dope. Staff member assaulting inmates for no reason at health care. Dr. Whealon not treating inmates at health care juat lettimg ua die in hear like were trash.. Staff donyhe same shit. Centralia prison in yhe most messed up place ive ever been in my life you guys dream up all these god damn rules then fail to follow them your selves..this prison truat fund account has 1.6 million dollara in it for it to pay for things for us!! Where yhe ahit at??? The officers get new weight and equiment in there gym and atuff every couple month we dont even got a good basketball! Why do i got to buy my own religious booka when yhe idoc budget ia 12 milliob a year. I dont got a book over yhere. Nor soea my religious diey be reconiEd where is all this money going??? Dont worry i will find out under yhe freedom of information act.
(11/5/2025)

1003. The department is going to scan mail to our tablets then after 6 months remove it but what about love ones who write us then pass away? Now those last letters/words from them is gone forever and i'll never see nore have them again which is not right cause scaning our mail is not going to stop people from getting contraband into jails. On top of that you have to hope that the staff put in charge scaning & posting our mail to the tablets actually do their jobs when and how their suppose to which we all know want happen and its a problem thats going to get bigger over time for the individuals in custody causing them to act out in a problematic way.
(11/5/2025)

1004. So i have already recieved mail on my tablet but the pictures are low quality. I have requested to the mail room 3 times now to have them printes and still havent got any response. There is also no notification process that you recieved any mail, so, the individuals who either dont have a tablet due to either being on restriction or if their tablet is broken, they will never know they even have mail. I feel that mail should automatically be photocopied, printed and sent to individuals, as well as digitally sent. That way everyone is guranteed to get their mail still. Because right now, ive been waiting on 35 pictures since september 19th and although i have them on the tablet, have yet to recieve a physical copy of them , even after numerous requests for them. (11/5/2025)

1005. Man i feel like you taking letters from our mail that shouldnt be takin i think yall copy they mail and keep the real copy. like its crazy i got to login in a tablet for my mail whats happens if im in the hole and i dont have my tablet for these privilages to see what my people writing me. its alot behind this stuff that some people wouldnt be able to see or know for hell it

can be a officer bring the stuff in without nobody known whats is what. i think yall test the mail before yall just take it from anyone its alot people that will file lawsuits for this stunt yall trying to pull here. (11/5/2025)

1006. Making the population view their mail and pictures from and tablet will cause issues. Suppose a person wants a hard copy of their mail or pictures and the Administration tells that person they don't have the means to print it out? Well tell me what that person should do then? The mail and pictures being placed on the tablet only are on here for a short period of time. Even if they did print them out the pictures they will come out grainy. Which would upset you if the shoe was on the other foot. You have to keep in mind that the Prison Administration tries to do the least work possible each day! There may be some sensitive information being mailed to you from family or friends and now its on the computer for anyone to see. There are people who work in prisons who will take that same information and use it for the wrong purpose. I have seen and heard on numerous times the staff discussing other peoples personal life amongst each other and with other people incarcerated. Nothing is ever done about it because it's their word against the person incarcerated. Its sad to say but nobody ever believes the person incarcerated. Or suppose that same person gets pictures of their wife or girlfriend. I have also heard of instances where the staff has pursued the women. Which makes the person incarcerated try to hurt the staff member and that same staff member lies and says I don't know why he tried to hurt me and will play the victim. Once again it will be the staff members word against the incarcerated person and nobody ever believes the incarcerated person. I don't believe this is a good idea at all. (11/5/2025)

1007. My comment on this is that they are already implementing this wrong at western illinois correctional, organizations that are legitimate companies send mail to us as pamphlets or brochures are being scanned and sent to us, which by the amendments made are in violation of their own regulations. Organizations such as Felon's Friend, Top Notch Inmate Services LLC (the LLC maks this legitimate in its self and shouldn't be scanned), any books to prisoners organizations, etc. Western Illinois correctional is utilizing these amendments to wrongfully restrict and tamper with approved mail, this goes in for a long line of issues this specific prison has utilized in making up their own rules that go directly against state regulations. (11/5/2025)

1008. My family buys cards and photos. The screenig and photo copying is not good quality. My family is paying for postage and cards for me to have not photo copies of these items. They are spending money for no reason. (11/5/2025)

1009. My family sent me the 10 certificates about three weeks ago and i still havent gotten anything on my tablet. My family also sent back the story i wrote, about 180 pages, and same thing, nothing on my tablet. When an inmate gets a ticket and is sent to segregation he basically loses all mail priveleges, tablets are not permitted in seg. i dont like this at all. Getting greeting cards sent by family amd/or friends is much more meaningful and sentimental, but not when its just a picture of the greeting card or letter. Us prisoners are already debased, demoralized and dehumanized by the staff and administration, this system is just dumping salt on the wound. Its made clear several times each and everyday that i am not REDACTED.
God bless America, land of the free and home of the rapaciously sadistic savages. I will continue to study and learn as much as i possibly can on edovo, they can not take my knowledge but they

make up for it by taking eveything else they possibly can. (11/5/2025)

1010. My family will not be very happy about mail being screened with all of their business for everyone to see (11/5/2025)

1011. My mail takes signifigantly longer, the copies are often made in a way that cuts off portions of the writing, and I am unable to comprehend why people that are on my visitor's list cannot drop off books anymore. I have hundreds of books at home, and currently I can't get any of them in to read. Moreover, if I order books, or someone orders books for me, I only have a finite space to keep them in, meaning that I either have to donate them or send them home, and since Menard has the disturbing tendency to throw away books, I no longer donate them. So I am effectively spending money on new books, to read them once or twice, then send them home never to be read again. That is ridiculous. I can understand the mail policy, at least in principle. But the book thing is madness. I have numerous physics and mathematics books at home that I can't access, and which I can't afford to buy duplicates of. If IDOC intends to maintain this book policy, we need a true bookstore app on the tablets, such as one would find on an app store. Failing that, I sincerely believe that anyone who comes to visit us should be able to drop off books to us. They get searched anyway before we get them, and there was never a claim books were being used to smuggle contraband into the prison. Also, by requiring that the books be dropped off by visitors, that would directly tie any attempts to smuggle something to a specific person.
(11/5/2025)

1012. My mail was delayed 3 weeks due to the change. Also half of a letter from my brother was not copied or forwarded. This does not support the idea of the change aiding connection to our families. (11/5/2025)

1013. My only comments on the mail policies are if the books we order from a company are allowed in then why are hardback books not allowed anymore from the same company not logical. Also, if our families send us pictures via a company i.e. free print the company is the one actually sending them not our families so there should be no problem there either. Maybe IDOC should have pressed more charges on individuals who committed these crimes of smuggling drugs into the institution to be a deterrent from continuing to do it or have higher punishments for such individuals. (11/5/2025)

1014. Look, i have sent my comments on the mail that i agree with. When this institution wont send the copies of the pictures that were sent to you, then what is this new system worth? One other thing in the music and games that you screwed us inmates over. Paying .02Â¢ a minute, screws all of us inmates over and you never followed the statue to get us the cheapist price. Like i have stated before, you can come get this paper weight, because its worthless to me and others see it the same way. So, you can come get this tablet and send me a cope of everything that you place on the tablet. I can use the wall phone that i use once every two to three months. I have been locked up for over 22 years now and everyone in springfield always find some way to screw over inmates. Get the point yet? We are not happy for what you are doing. (11/5/2025)

1015. One of many serious issues I have with the "new" mail policy is that of (P)rivacy. My

personal mail is addressed to me , and anyone other than (A)uthorized Dixon Corr. Ctr. Mailroom personnel, should have no access, rights, nor opportunity to access, or even see my personal mail; this violates my Constitutional rights to Privacy- on many levels. Additionally, any and all normative issues concerning the (C)ontents of my my, i.e. 'religious materials', family matters, Legal Corresp. Of all kinds', Laws schools/advocacy groups agencies etc', should be exempted from the new policies for mail to persons in custody. Any violations as would be created, or caused by the new mail policy in fact causes a not 'harmless' (q)uantifiable harm to persons in custody who suffer actual mental harm, stress, anxiety, and assured loss of privacy; which does implicate a 'Cruel & unusual punishment under the U.S. Constitution's 8th Amendment Clauses. Wherefore appropriate exemptions can and should be made accordingly. If not end/cancel the unlawful mail policy. * Addendum - Any Correctional Center mailroom is an extension of the U.S. postal system and are thus Governed by the rules and procedures/ guidelines of the Postal service; any changes that are made to procedures must be approved by the U.S. Postal service. If there is an assumption of State law claim to- wit; such defenses or claims to operate outside the Postal system's laws and executive authority, must be addressed by State Legislative procedure and signed by the Illinois Governor. Overall U.S. Postal system procedure and delivery is governed by the Postal system. (11/5/2025)

1016. Our facility is already partially doing this and messing it up badly. We have guys who can't even get printed copies of pictures. If the picture is a professional print from a photo place we should be able to get them. The main issue that I have with this new possible implementation is 1. We've already had STAFF members get arrested for bringing drugs into a penal institution so scanning the mail won't stop that. 2. It's already been proven that staff members can't get sick (as previously claimed) from touching the mail. What about people that can't afford brand new books and need used ones available? I believe that this system will hinder more than it will help. Plus, this facility shouldn't be doing this yet as it hasn't officially been made law. (11/5/2025)

1017. Our mail and especially our pictures feels very inpersonal. Seeing them on a tablet is not the same as havinh them in-person. Our mail print out requests take a long time to return to us. There has been problems with mail being downloaded to the wrong person and legal mail being scanned not given to us. Church bible studies and books are either being scanned in or returned becuse they are not from a publisher. (11/5/2025)

1018. Our mail had started being scanned before October 1,2025. We were told we'd receive our mail up til postmark October first. That our incoming mail with a postmark September 30,2025 & before would be allowed. We were told falsely. We were told that our mail would be scanned to the upmost quality. Again, false. As my mail keeps being improperly/incorrectly scanned. My letters & cards have been cut off to where I can not read them in their entirety. I've wrote several requests to "Mail Print Request" as instructed. Complaining of improper scanning of my mail, for print outs of my improperly scanned mail to be able to finish reading my mail that wasn't scanned completely... After seveal requests, I finally got a response. My request that was responded to reads: "Again, my scanned mail was improperly, I'd like a copy of Document Number N18140 102925-2 so I can finish reading my letter." The reply I received on my request reads: "We checked the view on the tablet and it is complete We can not print until we have direction who will be doing this and how it will be done. There is bleed through from the front pages to the back pages. from the ink, but we can not make changes to that. We reviewed all of

your mail and it is done correctly." I had no problem reading the part of letter that was scanned correctly, but not being able to have had my letter not completely scanned was my complaint. I hadn't noticed the so called bleed through they claimed to be there. So when they falsely stated that my mail/letter was scanned completely & correctly, I wrote another request back. My request reads: "I take it that you are porposely scanning my mail improperly, as you did not scan my letter again (4th time now) Document Number N18140 100325-1. If you aren't capable of the task appointed you, please turn it over to someone that is. I'd sure like to be able to read my letters/cards in their entirety. They are not being scanned/done correctly! My tablet shows proof of this! Come look for yourself." Reply reads: "Upon reviewing document N18140110325-1 I saw that the last sentence did not fit on the scanner. We can not control that, the letter should have been rejected. Please have them stay within the lines of the note paper." They were clearly within the lines. And it clearly shows where the letter page was not scanned completely. Showing it was improperly scanned. I even asked for the mail that was improperly scanned to be re-scanned to my tablet, as they aren't copying our mail upon request as told us, so I could finish reading the mail I was unable to. Never received a reply back & they've never been re-scanned back to my tablet. They are to hold our mail for just 6 months. They've been scanning for over a month now. The rate they're going, I'll never be able to read the mail that wasn't scanned properly. And mail is no faster with it being scanned, as it takes them forever to scan it to our tablets once our mail arrives. And since they don't copy our mail, how does one get mail when they are in X-House with no tablet & are on tablet restriction. I could go on & on, but a big part of me thinks I'm already wasting my time with this in the first place. (11/5/2025)

1019. Our mail is still being sent back and/or denied for the same reasons and called unauthorized as if we were receiving it yet we are not. It would only be considered unauthorized for a ""stain"" or ""foreign substance"" if we we actually receiving the mail. If a digital or paper copy is being made and we are not receiving the actual piece of mail how is it still considered unauthorized. If the objective is to prevent whatever from coming in and a copy does that why are we still getting things denied. A person would not be able to consume in any way for any reason anything other than the message the letter brings (11/5/2025)

1020. Our pictures only last on the tablet for 6 months then are deleted. The paper they say is quality is not and the pictures are in black and white. I cant even tell who they are. My grandmother does not know how to use freeprints or any other photo app. She uses wal mart and walgreens. So once she passes i wont have any pictures of her while im here for 29 more years. If drugs are such a concern. Why arent staff being looked at more closely. Instead of i.d.o.c. blaming our visits and mail (11/5/2025)

1021. People would like to ve able to send mail back home and pictures poast cards and holiday cards home and pictures that tour kids have drawn you because a copie is nt what they did its just a copy of it this system is stupid (11/5/2025)

1022. Pictures are meant to be viewed for a long time and shouldn't be scanned and sent through devices only to be deleted later on. It defeats the purpose of loved ones sending pictures if we can't view them forever. We should still be able to get real pictures from our loved ones. (11/5/2025)

1023. Pictures of family are important to have on hand. Hand written letters are a precious keepsake. Correspondence education/learning is meant to be hands on. When there is no access to the tablets during access down times; we will no longer be able to re-read a letter at any time; we feel so inclined, or look at a picture of a loved one whensoever we choose. But whatever must be done to stop the drugs is well worth any personal sacrifices. Be well. E. Milton Jr. (11/5/2025)

1024. Pontiac Correctional Center is refusing to make photocopies of mail when inmates request them - saying that they aren't sure how they're going to do it yet. I would suggest the IDOC headquarters get involved and force them to stop procrastinating and start making requested photocopies. (Thank you, for reading this.) (11/5/2025)

1025. Putting full blame on offenders' for drugs in the institutions' and weapons' is a false statement and offensive. I.D.O.C. relies on Sirchie Narc II for presumptive testing, which has been widely discredited for rampant false positives. For accurate drug tests, staff refuse to use Illinois State Police drug testing facility.
On Feb. 21, 2024 a contracted carpenter at Western Illinois C.C. was arrested for smuggling drugs and a cellphone into the prison
SEE: https//www.nytimes.com/2022/07/13/magazine/police-fentanyl-exposure- videos.html.
SEE: https://www.cookcountysheriff.gov/possession-of-drug-soaked-paper.html.
2. Restricting our access to books in a problem. Not all family members can afford to buy brand new books from big companies. D.O.C. wants to push out small companies, so we are forced to spend more money on larger companies. We at Western Illinois, are already receiving copies of brochures from smaller companies, rather than getting the originals and the larger companies "Bargain Books" catalogs come in as they are. (11/5/2025)

1026. NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
8) Does this rulemaking contain an automatic repeal date? No. (Should have a review date of every 3 or 5 years).
NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
h) "Incoming privileged mail" means mail from the following:
i) "Outgoing privileged mail" means mail to the following:
11) The Federal Bureau of Investigation, the
Drug Enforcement Administration, the Criminal Division of the
Department of Justice, the United States Customs Service, the Secret
Service, the Illinois State Police, and Sheriff's Offices and Police
Departments in the State of Illinois; (Should add Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice (DOJ).
Section 525.120 Processing of Mail
a) Mail shall be delivered and posted promptly. (This is an ambiguous statement).
d) Individuals in custody shall not be permitted to open, read, or deliver
another individual in custody's mail without the person's permission. (Should be 'written permission').
Section 525.130 Outgoing Mail
h) Department employees may spot check and read outgoing non-privileged mail. ('Does Department employees include Medical Staff, Food Service Staff, Maintenance Workers) ?

(11/5/2025)

1027. not all family has the tech savyness to order publications over the internet or from publishers. some enjoy sending physical copies of books they enjoy and now thats not possible. not to mention our facility as yet to have the capabilities of printing off our photos or important documents. this is more of a deterrant to family members as they are unsure if their loved ones will even be able to recieve what they send, even as much as paranoia as our loved ones expressed a distrust on what actually appens totheir photos of them and their children, especially because we are not allowed to send home the originals that come. inatead we must take it on blind faith that images of our loved ones are being housed properly and disposed of, in an age where AI can do scary things with an image this creates a sense of distrust amongst some people. this feels like an exscuse for idoc to maintain laziness as opposed to being active in their search and prevention of arising issues. (11/5/2025)

1028. mail is the only way for some Icc to communicate with there family and love ones so if idoc is going to stop mail they need toale sure we a have away to receive our mail and other pictures cause the system they have now takes over a month to be downloaded to the tablet and what about the icc that are in segregation/special housing unit how will they receive there mail with no tablet if this is going to be the new policy then idoc needs to xome up with a better system and its unfair to tell icc's that we only have 6 months to view our mail cause what if its pictures that are timeless or family that are no longer here mail should bs available as long as we are in custody (11/5/2025)

1029. Im a foreigner with really close connection to my home country. New rules basically made it impossible for me to recieve any publications from Poland. I am also learning Turkish and often my frends from europe would sent me publications in Turkish to help with my education. (11/5/2025)

1030. Im not a person who recieves a whole lot of mail but when i do it is special to me. Like from my grandmother when i open a letter from her it smells of white diamond perfume and baked goods.B-) these are things that add to the letter giving and recieving experience. I do understand that there is an epidemic going on with this saturated paper bullshit but to be completely truthful there is nothing u can do to stop it as criminals serving various sentences we have nothing to do but figure out new ways to circumvent these policies. How hard is it to find a lawyer with a drug or sex addiction or to have a cousin or other family member that is willing to get a job at yhese various approved vendors. In the long run all youre truly doing is making things harder for those of us who refuse to partake in the bullshit. Our mail is already super backed up this will only push it back further and the holidays futher still. It is a frivolous expenditure of government resources to do this (11/5/2025)

1031. IDOC has taken one of the only personal items that we can receive from our love ones! A piece of mail that has touch my love ones hand means more than IDOC will ever know for my mental well being. Its way more than just a piece of paper or card that gets delivered. To get something in the mail from my kids mean the world to me it keeps us connected while im so far away,ive been in IDOC for more than 16yrs,and i have every piece of mail ive ever received from my two kids to this day! I just received my 1st piece of mail thur the new mailing system

and i couldnt even make out what it said totally,so i just threw it away and told my family to never send me mail any more! I understand mail is a dying art,but im one of the few that is very bothered by not being able to receive mail from my family the way its been for the last 16yrs for me! IDOC should have a better way of stopping drugs,weapons,ect from getting into prison than taking one of the only things that helps us get thur these hards times and situations! I feel like ive lost another piece of my life!!! (11/5/2025)

1032. Im very upset about this change! I already dont see my family so to have a letter, book, magazine, ect sent to me from my familiy and not be able to get it is very sad/depressing it makes me feel like im loosing connection with my family, it hurts. (11/5/2025)

1033. In almost all other states that have banned physical mail.from being received from outside family and friends overdoses have increased dramatically. It is psychologically harah to remove the tangible touch of letters. It seems cold to only look at or receive a copy of somethong a loved one touched and sent to you. There grows a sense of disconnect while caged away. Punishment seems to be the norm for those who do good. Why not have mail scanned for those found guilty of drug offenses instead of a entire system wide policy for all people. Those who do good are often treated tje worst because we do not protest and cause disruption and violence. Those who do are appeased or in this instance cause all.to suffer. Facilities do not even have treatment opr (11/5/2025)

1034. In life the only thing we havebare the heartfelt words of iur loved ones. IDOC has implemented a rule about our (tangible)mail and how we will no longer be able to recieve such, or how we (prisoners) can have them printed out of our tablets. What hapoens when my cellie breaks my tablet(?) Or an officer or its lost?? Then i have to buy another tablet for $124.00 for something i didnt do. At least with my mail, i can still read it and dont have to pay $124.00 to do this. I can receive a greeting card on time and not have to wait three weeks after it came into the facility for someone in the mail room to scan my mail and 1500 other inmates mail onto their tablets. We're being consequented for someone else actions. I shouldnt have to be subjected to this bogus rule. My name REDACTED so the question now is, you have inmates being raped in prison and the perp is still allowed to be around other inmates to repeat such offense again. Makeshift weapons are made in these prisons to harm people and yet none of these items are being tooken away. Its a contradiction. Our mail should not be took period. (11/5/2025)

1035. In regards to the electronic scanning of documents, I think its a sad event. Phone an write are the ways i use to communicate with my wife and children. I enjoy the feel and smells of physical paper. I've had pictures that my daughters colored, sent back. It was demoralizing. I haven't been able to smell my wifes perfume. IDOC keeps taking things away and never gives anything back. It seems they use the prisons as a political pawn piece. I am not impressed. Its demoralizing. (11/5/2025)

1036. It carries a specific estetic getting paper mail its intangible something that i can hold and feel we've been stripped of everything already granted because of our own choices but speaking for my self i dont have much to look forward to beyond mail (11/5/2025)

1037. It is absolutely irrisponsible to refuse to give to people that are incarcerated their own

postal mail from their loved ones. The incarcerated are already stripped of everything they have and the people they love so to take away something that means so much like cards, letters, and photos that are tangible, is just rediculous. It will do nothing positive. There will be nothing but outrage. I personally heard the mail officer say that he is "never going to print anyones mail out for them EVEN IF this facility ever got a printer to do so". So what are individuals supposed to do when their mail that they cant get in person wont even get printed out per the regulations and rules that are posted in the memo? Idoc wont even hold anyone accountable to ensure these procedures that they themselves are creating are implimented. (11/5/2025)

1038. It is an infringement upon our rights having all of our mail scanned. It also is a major inconvience to myself and my family. To not be able to see a real birthday and other cards isn"t fair. Also to not receive pictures from my family, is very hurting considering that I'm already left behind by being in prison and cannot see my grandchildren or neices and nephews, is disheartening. There are just some things that the State should not be able to take away from us. (11/5/2025)

1039. It is not fully developed i have errors where i cant see my loved ones mail entirely and i want the physical copy of the mail it holds sentimental value to me. (11/5/2025)

1040. it is sad how this place dont care about how long it takes for us to receive our mail. We dont have much from our family and kids and now we can not have the memories that are created without us. Us as women miss that time with our kids and now we wont have the memories either. (11/5/2025)

1041. It means a lot to me to recieve mail. As an individual with some time to do, hand written mail from loved ones is precious to me. Pictures are especially important to me as I have small grandchildren. I would love to recieve original mail from my loved ones, it is essential to feeling connection with them. (11/5/2025)

1042. It really doesnt matter how i may feel or what i may think, being incarcerated several different times throughout my life i realize that we truely dont have a voice. So they take away the one thing that means alot to us and thats mail. It takes longer to hear from our loved ones now that they have to scan the mail in. To me it bull (11/5/2025)

1043. It should be held unconstitutional because there's nothing to continue to empower the system to take more and more away from us. Who or what will replace the smell, touch, kiss, perfume of our kids, women, family and friends in our mail?! Not only that but the precious memories and sentimental value that a piece of mail holds, amongst many more fruits/resources and outlets that it provides. (11/5/2025)

1044. It stop the connetion with love one on a emotional level (11/5/2025)

1045. It sucks because i cant phycially get pictures of my family i can only look at them in the daytime and what if my tablet breaks i can never read or look at my family again please bring letters back (11/5/2025)

1046. It sucks because we can no longer get actual original pics from home makes it harder on our people (11/5/2025)

1047. It sucks that we all are being punished for the actions of the incarcerated persons who are breaking the rules. It would not come to this if the officers were not complicit in the illegal consumption of banned substances. We are still humans serving sentences and our humanity is being diminished by not allowing us to personally hold mail written by our loved ones. (11/5/2025)

1048. It sucks that because of the drug addicts we all have to suffer thier consicuences. Some of us dont smoke but now we cant get a phisical letter from a loved one or any more pictures we can look at, at any time we like to. (11/5/2025)

1049. Its bad that people have to suffer not getting mail like cards from your loved ones they just scan your mail and throw it away (11/5/2025)

1050. Its crazy because if my family sends me pictures of family members no longer alive 6 months is enough time for me to have that picture thats not right at all and should be against the law.. While doing time we lose loved ones so a little thing such a picture can help and heal a person doing time.. Ive been in here 15yrs... How would u feel???? (11/5/2025)

1051. Its difficult to read our letters in some locations and its also frustating that we can only view them for 6months. Especially since we dont get to do anything with the hard copys and some of our mail is uplifting or a reminder of what keeps us going. (11/5/2025)

1052. It's just weird not having mail in your hand anymore. I have been gone 14years and I have letters from my stepmom who is now dead and I'm glad that I have letters from her that she wrote me I feel connected to her just to have her letter in my hand. I just wonder what she was thinking as she was writing. It mighg mentaly mess with people mind who have alot of time (11/5/2025)

1053. Its not fair because the mail or letters send to us by our friends or family members are of value to us this letters have meaning to us setimental value we cherish this letters or greeting cards (11/5/2025)

1054. Its not good because my family in friend want me to have the real mail that they touch cry on took they hard time writing on not no copy that we can't keep my family paying for pitchers that y'all gonna delete in six mouths (11/5/2025)

1055. I totally disagree with this change but i do understand it i just dont believe its fair to a lot of imates know one should have acess including this staff to my personal pictures of my kids or grandkids its one thing to search the mail but total diffrent to have posession of my pics of my family i truly believe you all need to find another way for this i mite be having a bad day a want to look an my photos at 3am or 4 or 5am i cant do that because my tablet is not on an a lot of times these tablets dont down load things they be out of sink (11/5/2025)

1056. I wont b able to get actual letters,pictures which is as close to home i can get, bu they see it as stopping drugs at the cost of this (11/5/2025)

1057. I would like to atleast be able to touch my letters my grandkids send to me and also my sick family members that are very ill and can not acces the internet... Thanks (11/5/2025)

1058. I would like to get my family pictures, the original physical copies were held by them then sent to me. There fore holding more of a sentimental part to originals then to photo copies. Letters as well but i mainly care about pictures. (11/5/2025)

1059. I would rather get my mai lthe way we used to get it. I don't care for the new way. They should just give us our mail. A copy is not the same as the real thing and if you get a card or photos u got to ask for a copy. Plus what if your love ones were to draw you something or your little kid was to write you a letter you wouldn't want a copy you would want the real thing. Plus the drugs are not coming in through the mail the co's are the ones bringing it in. (11/5/2025)

1060. I would rather have phsical mail instead of electronic mail cause it takes away the authencity of the letter. What happens when you get out of prison and you cant take the tablet with you so the mail is lost and with the physical letter you can take with you (11/5/2025)

1061. I, don't like the new rules with the mail, because, it is a lifeline to our famillies. Some things are sacred, and, we cannot get that moment back. For, instance, my mom, and, my grandmom, are now deceased,and, I, have kept all of their letters and greeting cards, and, that way, I, can read over and over. That is how, I, keep their memory alive. What happens when a loved one pass away?? The obituary, is going to be scanned??? That is so tacky. I, understand, that the prisons are trying to get control of the drug problem, as, they should, and, I, wish they would, but, I, don't think it is just coming from the mail, offenders receive from family members. It could be from visits, and, staff. We don't know where the problem stems. This scanning of the mail will be a s##t show. The mail is already backed up, this will just slow it down even more. I, am, just over, all of it, when it comes to the prison system. Yeah, we have a right to make a comment, but, it really matter, at the end of the day? (11/5/2025)

1062. I want the regular mail back please is feeling like home when you got a mail from your family
In your hands (11/5/2025)

1063. I want drugs to stop making it inside these facilities as well but i just dont agree with the fact that we are not able to get our original copies. To alot of us, those mean more than you know. Who wants pictures copied and scanned to the tablet and printed off on paper if requested. Those are something we definitely should be able to have. There should be a more thorough way to check mail safely to be sure it is cleared of any suspicions. (11/5/2025)

1064. Its not understandable theres a certain feelings u gwt when u get hand wriiten letters from your family it shows they took time out their days to wrie and send these letters out it (11/5/2025)

1065. Its not the some as getting your mail from your love ones because you can not look at it the same way it's your love ones sent the way they smell (11/5/2025)

1066. Its so sad that we are being striped of being able to actually touch our famlies and love ones pics or even letters its like we are being deprived of human contact (11/5/2025)

1067. Jusk kinda sucks i cant have a actual letter my wife sends me to keep amd hold and read bcs people are stupid in here and smoke bug spray (11/5/2025)

1068. Just wanted to say that taking my physical mail from my loved ones is the last "physical connection" that I have to the outside world and my family. Yeah being able to call is great but at the same time the last "physical connection" is a hand written letter or the thought of a card from your family. Visits are great but my family and loved ones can't always make it down to see me because of how expensive it is just to travel and the cost of the food etc...So money becomes an issue. I have one living grandparent left. My "Nana" is 84 and does her best to write and send cards and I wont be able to have and keep the cards or letters from her anymore which will be lost. I will never be able to pull out an old card or letter and read the words she left behind for me. I feel like connection to our families and loved ones should be encouraged yet I'm constantly separated and isolated from them and I have been following the rules and doing all the right things...postive, staying out of trouble, working jobs, taking and Facilitating Behavior Modification programs/Rehabilitation Programs, and A Peer Mentor. It feels like the more good things I strive to do the more resistance and punishment I recieve. In closing, taking our physical mail can and will leave a lasting negative mental impact which keeps us disconnected to the physical aspect of the world out there. We are already removed physically enough and the physical mail is the last physical connect to our families and loved ones. (11/5/2025)

1069. Most of the mail that inmates get from family and friends are to be kept close to the heart and are needed to be read in a time of need. (11/5/2025)

1070. My children and grandchild send me hand made items, my family pays good money for books an cards, and i believe it's wrong for you take those privliges away and make my people lose money for the book and cards they send me. (11/5/2025)

1071. Not being able to personally touch feel smell mail sent to us by loved ones is not right. Took the last little real communication away from us!!! (11/5/2025)

1072. Mail is essential for the mental and emotional well being of individuals in custody. We like to hold the card, letter, picture from our loved ones in our hands, revisit it over and over again throughout our incarceration, and have a physical reminder that someone out there cares. Yes, you have the option of getting it copied, but how efficient will that be; I sent a print request 2 weeks ago and still haven't received anything. I understand the need to stop contraband from entering the facilities, but at what cost? (11/5/2025)

1073. Mail is sentimental, it holds value to how our loved ones feel about us, we cant always see or touch them so being able to have pictures on the wall or that special letter that warms you up on stand by to read help us feel loved, cards decorating the cell that brings joy knowing that

someone loves us, by putting the mail on the tablet it takes away from us the sentiment feelings our loved ones gives to us, Demorcrats will lose minority votes doing things like this (11/5/2025)

1074. Mail now sucks. What happens when we get a letter from a dying family member or some funetal related stuff. The sentimantal significance attached with that is not replaceable. If my Son or Daughter write me and i have nevwr votten a letter from them aNd 30 yrs latet i get one from them its totally wrong to take that envelope and letter and make xopies and send m obly the copies. Thats wrong. What you should have done was gotten a video screen it something that could scan the mail for.contraband and what not (11/5/2025)

1075. It's understandable why IDOC feels like this is necessessary. However, recieving physical letters from family is important to us and it makes us feel a little closer to home. Surely there is another way to handle this situation so that we as individuals may still recieve our mail and photos. (11/5/2025)

1076. My question is if you have a realative write you a letter then later passes thats the only thing you have from that person and its on the tablet. Hand wriiten letters mean more to some people than others. (11/5/2025)

1077. No, to mail scan it deprives us of the actual sentiment of a card letter or drawing from our children family members or loved ones... Also with a slow mail system now that is behind a week at best adding extra steps to disbursing our mail will only slow it down more. Not to mention the multitude of lawsuits that this will set into motion, and to my finally conclusion if this whole ordeal is to some how slow or stop the incoming drugs then this is pointless and only punitive to those who have no involvement with drugs so if we can be truthful here then just let the idiots stupid enough to ingest that shit slowly kill themselves of... It would be doing society a favor.. (11/5/2025)

1078. Please understand,when we get our drawings from our kids and grandkids..this is very important to us..this is bonds with our kids..every ony donot use drugs..i.d.o.c. Have to find better ways to deal with the drug problem..pictures,drawings,books,magazines and our letters is just as important as the ones most i.d.o.c staff have at they home..you and i both know its drugs around some not all of their homes..they have they values of their kids and grandkjds..please allow us to have the same joyment..moses stamps
(11/5/2025)

1079. Ive been incarcerated over 25 years now.due to mistakes ive made while i was younger,ive been forced to live with less of everything.there are few things to look forward to in here.majority deal with the outside world.ive watched as theyve done everything possible to get in the way of us maintaining meaningful communication with our loved ones. One thing i could always looked forwad to,even in my darkest of moments,was a letter from mom.a.card and picture from my wife.in the moments when i was striped of every possible possesion,when i was at my tipping point ready to give up,mail was there to help me through it.to touch what she once touched.to feel the smile creep across my face.nothing like it. And now they wanna take that because they dont want to do the work it takes to stop/solve a SMALL problem. (11/5/2025)

1080. Like it has been well spoken upon that regarding our mail that it is very important and person to us inmates to have possession of materialistic things from our loved ones and create and establish connection with the outside world and we are limited to how long something can be viewed a certaint amount of times and get discarded and thats wrong and we should not have to ask for a request to get something that belonged to us in the first place and to have a hold up of when we can get it at the mailroom and administrative timing that puts an extention on it and yeah it would be good to go with a saying that ""its best to recieve something period then not getting it at all and the late notice too. But it boils down to the importance of the in between connection and important of what we can hold on to for our mail in our property boxes and choose to do whatever we want with it and no matter what with the exposure to any drug substance being with the said mail that is not the only way a "" SAID"" drug could get in a facility b/c things can always go thru what has always been a common carrier is there own staff and now we got this restriction on our own personel. When the own people know what they know and anything can get into a prison depending who security staff is period. (11/5/2025)

1081. Mail and photos from family is essential to those that are incarcerated. Its the personal letters and photos that touch the heart. To have something that was sent to you by love ones it becomes something thats centimental. You really have to put yourself in the inmates shoes and ask the question, do you want your original mail? Hopefully, they'll continue delievering physical mail and the persoan mail. Thank you, for enquiring about our thoughts for concerning mail. (11/5/2025)

1082. Mail call in prison is the door way to reentry. Its the physical touch of thoughts and thoughtfulness. To know something came from the outside world through the razor wire into your hands with a message of real need for our presence we are touched in a way that holds us steady. To photo copy those sentimemts is another barrior and another reminder of the interference this place places on connections. (11/5/2025)

1083. Mail is all we have to look forward to in prison. And now we cant get pictures? Can you imagine not getting pictures of your children and loved ones? Thats what keeps us going here. When its time to get mail at our door, its like Christmas. Like I said, its all we have. (11/5/2025)

1084. Mail is special to prisoners, to hear your name
Called at mail time means someone took the
Time to think about you and also someone
Loves you, we save these letters because
They mean something to us and if the mail
Is coming on the tablets it loses that special
Value because if we get ot printed up it isn't
The paper our loved one touched or used it is
Just words. Not all of us prisoners are bad
People doing wrong, We are given a label
Because of the ones who do screw it all up
For the rest of us who follow the rules and
Just do our time! We need to feel special if
We are to change our lives around and that

Is what in person mail does for us! (11/5/2025)

1085. Mail should not be added to the tablet it take away the true meaning of mail A Latter feel like a gift from your love ones (11/5/2025)

1086. Mail should come paper form not to tablet. Mail should be able to take home for rememberance of love ones who wrote back or reached out so the ones on the outside knows he or she is not forgotten (11/5/2025)

1087. Mail should be given to all inmates in Illinois department of corrections period.
While we are here we need that connection to family to smell them or to hold a peice of mail that maybe some one may send but then passes away.
THE GENERAL ISSUES IS IDOC AND ANY OTHER INSTITUTE HAS (I.D.R) FOR THOSE WHO VIOLATE THE RULE AND REGULATION.
THE CORRECTIONAL STAFF DO DRUGS ITS A FACT FROM PILLS TO LIQUOR TO LEVEL ONE NARCOTICS.AND ARE ALLOWED NOW TO SMOKE MARIJUANNA AND THERE IS NO DRUG TESTING FOR THEM.
THIS ISSUE THAT YOU CLAM TO HAVE HAS NO DATA TO THE MATTER AT HAND ITS AS IF THE GOVERNMENT TRYS TO STOP DRUGS COMING INTO THE UNITED STATES AGAIN THE BIGGEST INTTITY IN THE WORLD CANNOT AND WILL NEVER STOP DRUGS GROWN OR MAN MADE.
THE SAME IS FOR IDOC.
NOW MAIL IS COMING FORM OUR FAMILY AND BUSINESSES BUT NOW YOU WANT TO STOP OUR MAIL.SO NOW MORE TAX ON YOUR OWN MONEY STUPID.MONEY OUT YOUR POCKET WE LIVE TAX FREE HERE.
DUMMIE YALL WANT TO PAY FOR SOMETHING THAT WHAT EVER YOU SEEM TO CLAIM TO HAVE A PROBLEM WITH.THERE IS MORE SUICUIDES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS THAN ANYTHING ELSE DATA THAT WHILE YOUR AT IT.
THERE WAS PLENTY OF CORRECTIONAL STAFF THAT WAS FALLING OUT CLAIMING TO BE DESTRUAT BUT THAT WAS WHEN THERE WAS THIME OFF FROM WORK WITH PAID LEAVE FOR HAZARD PAY.
BUT AFTER THE DEPARTMENT INFORMED STAFF THEY WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO COLLECT PAID LEAVE AND SEVERAL DAYS OFF NOBODY AGAIN NOBODY KEPT UP THE SCAM.
THERE WAS NO DRUG TESTING TO SAY YES THERE IS A DRUG OR SUBSTANCE IN THE STAFFS BLOOD OR URINE SAMPLES.WHY????CAUSE THERE WAS NONE UNLESS ITS SMOKED OR CONSUMED THREW ORAL CONSUMPTION PERIOD.
WE WANT OR MAIL NOTHING WILL STOP NOMATTER YOUR ANGLE.
THE PICS ARE NOT GOOD QUILTY AT ALL THE PICS ARE BLACK AND WHITE AND YOU ERASE THEM AFTER (6)MOUNTHS
AGAIN YOU CANT EVEN HAVE THE GOOD ONES WHILE IN SEGGREGATION.
PLEASE REINSTATE OUR MAIL. (11/5/2025)

1088. The mail scan program in Illinois DOC has caused more problens oppose to aided in safety and security.The scanning of mail has denied/prohibited incarcerated people fron

recieving family members photos,letters,and even important paperwork.Our relatives pay to photo companies money to send photos and yet we're havin our picts destroyed after scanning them to our tablets???I have NEVER been exposed to this said drugs and i have never witnessed any staff be harmed nor fallout due to handling mail.I receive legal mail and regular and i have NEVER been harmed or infected by this alleged drug infestation.This act of digitizing mail only to keep your original picts,letters,etc.then destroying it after 6months is another way to oppress those of us whon are already incarcerated.I even have witnessed the mishandling of mail by the Lawrence CC staff who have NOT printed my neighbor's mail that he requested to have peintedfrom his tablet.It has been over 2weeks and he still has NOT recieved is requested copies.The acts of ILDOC are lies,manipulation and abuse of power/authority (11/5/2025)

1089. The mail itself i dont have a problem with, however i think cards and pictures should be allowed and not just posted to the tablet. As offenders incarsarated we dont have much and those things have alot of meaning to us. I also think that stoping publications provided by our friends and loved ones is also not right as there are several things that we can no longer get because they are not offerd as a subscription or that can only be subscribed to online wich we do not have access too, such as the Illinois Auto & R.V. magazine, or The wheels and deals magazine. Then there is some magazines that are offerd per subscription yet are denied through the mail room because they come with stickers over spine to protect the magazine from damage during shiping, such as Auto Round Up or Truck Round Up. (11/5/2025)

1090. The Illinois Department Of Corrections claims that drugs are making their way into prisons by legal mail but is doing things to constantly stop our normal mail including our pictures. The whole thing is backwards, if the problem is legal mail then what does our pictures or hand written letters from our family members that have sentimental value to us have to do with anything? It just seems like another thing to use to constantly hurt individuals in custody because the Illinois Department Of Corrections does not want us to rehabilitate they want to break us so that we either stay in prison or come back when we get out. We aren't anything to the Illinois Department Of Corrections but a paycheck. Anything that brings a Individual in Custody joy the Illinois Department Of Corrections will find a way to take it away. (11/5/2025)

1091. The epidemic of drugs getting into the institutions on inmate's mail is a serious problem. I'm not happy with my mail being sent straight to the tablet as having a tangible copy of the letters and pictures I'm sent means a lot, but at the same time something does need to be done to stop the drigs from coming in here. I cant overstate how sick and tired I am of being around all of this crap, especially when I'm forced to live in a cell with someone who partakes and there's nothing I can do to remove myself from that situation save refuse housing. That's just not right. (11/5/2025)

1092. The department has to get a handle on drugs in the facilities, I totally understand that point of saftey. However, dont misunderstand the importance of receiving physical mail. I did 23 years before my parole violation. My mother passed away during that time. I took home, and still have her letters and cards she sent me. Those peices of mail are some of the only things i have left of her...Something she touched and sent to me with love. It takes time to write a letter, and to not get the physical letter...Then what happens to the mail after 6 months? Is the physical mail just dicarded? The drugs in my facility is coming through staff, no drugs have stopped, and

the only change is the price went up for those drugs. There has to be a better way to address the mail issue. I go home soon, so im not greatly affected by the departmental changes. I speak for those that come after me...Dont take away the physical mail that means so much to those incarcerated. Taking the mail away, the physcial, only hurts the individuals in custody, and further alienates them from society and humanity. Thank you for your time and patience! (11/5/2025)

1093. Taking away the mail takes away a sentimental value by not being able to keep the original..its idoc fault for bring to relaxed on checking the mail.it would cost less on getting the correct tests to test mail than it will printing our mail out.plus its not gonna stop the COs bringing stuff in.. (11/5/2025)

1094. Takes away the sentimental value of the mail we get sent by our loved ones (11/5/2025)

1095. Some personal mail is very valuable to some people we like to be able to recieve pictures our kids and neices and nephews and grandkids draw for us as well as memorial cards and what not (11/5/2025)

1096. So I can't have a picture my kid drew to me because IDOC c/o's smuggle drugs into the prisons and sell to inmate? 1)USPS scan/test/dog sniff for drugs/explosives before it ever gets to the prisons! 2)IDOC can stop all mail/books/newsletters/publications and it would NOT prevent the guards from smuggling in drugs. 3)IDOC admits in the first section that they did not conduct analysis or report to show the truthfulness of their claims. 4)They said NO Hardback Books out of FEAR of phentynal being smuggled in the covers, but when asked they could NOT point to a single incident. 5)Every inmate at Taylorville CC has suffered from malicious scanning, where they chop of the bottom third of a page, and often only the first few pages are scanned in a multipage letter. We are told we can "request" a printout of our scanned letters, but none have received them. Those who have received printouts of photographs receive black and white thumbnail sized photos printed on standard copy paper. 6)It has further isolated me from my family since they don't want to send me letters/cards because I won't receive the originals anyway. To add to the frustration, CorrLinks is very difficult to signup for/use, and as a result they don't use it either because the platform is NOT user friendly.

IDOC is busy fearmongering and aren't even being intellectually honest in their claims. Reveiw cadet training for these guards and it is quickly apparent that hatred for inmates is systemic and deeply ingrained at the very beginning. Plus Director Hughes has taken away normal pens/razors/toothbrushes from minimum security prisons, and tries to run each security level of prisons like a maximum security prison. Minimum security prisons used to be open and "free movement", but now they have escorted line movements like the higher security levels.

IDOC is lying to you, and are looking to either somehow make money from ths, have more control by stripping us of our rights, or looking for ways to do less work. Every night when I use the restroom, I can see the wing officer and desk sergeant sound asleep while on duty. As the old saying goes, " follow the money!" (11/5/2025)

1097. Man....we need handwritten letters from our family.
What if they die?that will be all we have to remember them a actual handwritten letter,why take that away from us? (11/5/2025)

1098. Man bring our mail back we have kids that write and draw of us dad's,Mom's that are incarcerated.we have great grandparents who dont technoligy and all the could do is write or want to do.that's selfish of the department of corrections thats not rehabilitation or helping.how can you say your building when all you do is tare down?and certain prison's they're guards amoungst others are very happy they taking everything from us.our families send pictures to us and you never know us incarcerated might have the last copy of the picture for a funeral or something.we can't even get obituaries in.....what'the good in that??????????no excuse did it for nothing control that's all...but answer this..what is the reason for this survey if illinois department of corrections not gonna give us our mail back... (11/5/2025)

1099. My daughter is 12. She sends me pictures from school, and life, and all sorts of things and writes on the back of photos. She loves receiving and sending letters. Weve been writing for 3 years now often. I wrote her for over 6years every single day. She kept all of the letters, and i have kept all of hers. Unlike the men who are going home soon, this policy is extremely detrimental to my mental health and my daughters. We cannot keep sentimental peoperty. At my current outdate she will be 56 years old when i am eligible for MSR. So basically for the rest of our lives, I never get to have any of the correspondence from her in my hands. I understand some people break rules and do wrong. I dont. What i have learned more than anything in IDOC. Its that following ALL the rules, and being respectful, and trying your best, only results in being punished further for the actions of others. Everytime someone else does something wrong, I am punished. My daughter is punished. My parents are punished. I enjoy having photos out on my desk while i draw, or write. I enjoy being able to send pictures out with notes on them cause its funny to my daughter. This is just another way to unfairly punish the inmatea who dont have obtainable outdates. Even when i behave myself. I have chosen over and over again to humble myself and not get into trouble. It is apparent that it doesnt matter how i behave in regard to earning better treatment or rehabilitation. All there is is further punishment and dehumanization. One of the greatest joys of my life is when i receive mail. It was that way when i was in the military, it has been that way in prison. The administration taking mail away is cruel and unusual punishment. (11/5/2025)

1100. My opinion on the mail..Well i personally feel that it will take away memories..Because the photos that are added to our device only last for 6 months..Which means upon our release, we wont have anything mail to go home with..As far as legal mail and things of that natures, its not a big deal..Our main concerns are the "PICTURES"..I do agree with changes to an extent..Mainly the printing machines, and how will the finished material turn out..I dont want to be left with paper pictures, that will most likely be damaged..Whether its from me spilling something on them, or the TAC-TEAM coming through displacing my things..To stop the "drugs" from being smuggled into the institution..You have to also address the officers, who plays a major in the smuggling..Nothing gets through these prisons, without the help of an inside participant..Once that is address then you can work your way down..So my answer to the question is YES! I do agree with the changes in the mail..As long as it doesnt have a negative impact on our correspondence (11/5/2025)

1101. Not fair to us that do not do drugs. Not fair if my old family members or regular family members send me birthday cards, pictures and not be able to receive them especially if ones die.

Its not fair to not be able to have an actual physical copy of the object we would consider a momento. Looking at our mail on a digital screen not being able to hold or hug a an actual letter, picture, or card next to our heart and smell it is so cruel and unusual punishment just because I.D.O.C. cannot get a hold of the so called drug problem. Its not a problem to all of us. Most of us are not drug addicts and choose not use drugs as we are correcting our behaviors and learning from our mistakes. Really feel degraded from this new rule. Im being punished for my crime continuosly in here cause of this rule. (11/5/2025)

1102. Physical mail has sentimental value. Individuals in custody who have long sentences for to serve at times recieves paper mail that has been hand-written by elder or/and ill family members. As you can assume, one would wish for to preserve these actual letter long after the family member has passed away. Taking away paper mail and replacing it with scanned copies takes away the sentimental and soulful value of the letter. (11/5/2025)

1103. Physical mail is an important way for incarcerated individuals to stay in contact with our loved ones and support systems in the outside world.i understand the concern about contraband coming into facilities but from my experience it does not happen as often as it is portraded.i feel it was an issue years ago but not as much today.i feel if the Department was more transparent on actual occurences and what was attempted to be introduced the public would see that the benefits far outweigh the threat.i feel that also all shouldnt be punished for the few.if an individual is caught trying to introduce contraband they could have more stringent measures taken for their mail for a time.this is supposed to be a system of correction and rehabilitation not of punitive punishment and retrobution.vengence is easy,justice is difficult.i feel those that need correctiveness respond better to a system of positives to good behavior.currently there is minimal to no incentives to "be or do better." Jobs are at a minimum,programs are limited to nonexsistant,even simple things like chapel services are not being ran at our facility.i feel the mail ban/scanning is more about profits for private corporations,kickbacks to departments and personal,and laziness rather than anything else.ill even share my name to my feelings (11/5/2025)

1104. Pictures and letters should not be photo copied for a individual to see on a tablet,etc. These are personal and sentimental, and should be in the possession of the individual. What ever security process is used is heeded to as long as there is no elegal or contraband material found on the letters and photo's , the individual should have possession. (11/5/2025)

1105. Pictures really need to be either delivered to us or printed on picture paper. Since non-scan security options are available, electronic scanning of mail should be an option of last resort. I have a letter in which one of my daughters circled a spot to let me know she kissed it so I can kiss her whenever I want. Knowing my other childen won't be able to do that is heartbreaking. Also language needs to be inserted to insure timely printing and rescanning. I have put in a request nearly every night since 10/14 and still have not gotten the mis scanned card rescanned, nor any of the 4 documents printed. Detection is a far fairer option for persons in custody who have not been found to be receiving contraband. Also, clarification that hard cover books ARE allowed needs promulgated to all facilities. I have had hard cover books rejected despite there being no rule against it. That severely limits my religious study texts, as a bookish Catholic. (11/5/2025)

1106. Playing with the mail process will undoubtedly slow the time that we recieve our mail, but also, if we recieve a letter from one of our children, and have to view it in digital form, that hinders the connection that we experience from actual mail from a loved one. The sentimental is something that as an incarcerated person, we hold dear to. (11/5/2025)

1107. Seems to be working ok. I really hope it ends this drug trafficing into the facilities. I have asked for some pictures to be printed and have yet to receive them. Hope that gets resoled. Also some letters are cut off due to improper scanning. Please see to it that the entire mail is scanned fully. Thank you. (11/5/2025)

1108. If the IDOC was checking mail like they should then inmates would be able to get their mail from the mail room but since its no trust with the officers then its hard on inmates who just wanna do there time and go home.... (11/5/2025)

1109. Im glad they are trying to get the drugs out of the prison just dont like how u cant get photos from loved ones and that they are coppied to tablet so everytime u wanna look at a picture u gotta put ur passward in scroll thru and find picture instead of just having it in hand (11/5/2025)

1110. I'm cool with it. But what I'm not cool with is how badly its malfunctioning. My tablet tells me I've received over 25 pieces of mail, but only 13 peices are viewable. I've wrote the mail room several times, & have been completely ignored. I've talked to the counselor & explained everything & am being told theres nothing she can do. So there you have it, I have mail that I will probably never read because too many people rely on computers. But again, I have no problem with the new mailing system so long as it works correctly & people don't ignore me when I explain theres a problem. (11/5/2025)

1111. Im all for it ,but the process of us inmates recieving mail takes forever through 3rd party there a month behind ,thats not satisfactory, (11/5/2025)

1112. im all for it because it will stop the k2 from coming in but i also dont like it because i would want any orginal letters my family sends not a copy or on the tablet. i think it will help with the drugs coming in but also cos and visits will still happen. as far as it coming in. they also have fake legal mail sprayed with drugs to. im a recovering addict so i see what its doing to guys in here. making prison even more dangerous. (11/5/2025)

1113. If the wifi does not work, as HU4 recently experienced for almost a week, IDOC officials deny individuals in custody access to their mail. How will IDOC ensure internet connection? Why do I not have access to my mail from 12am until 6am? When drugs and cell phones are still present post directive change what are the next steps to be taken? (11/5/2025)

1114. if your photos come from a vendor they should be allowed if they are just from family they should be put on the tablet (11/5/2025)

1115. Ill say that its a good thing what they doing with the mail but pictures should be able to

come in as long as it cones thru a company because its not fair if it gets uploaded on tablets and then disposed but i agree on what the new mail process is but it also got to be more careful on legal mail as well (11/5/2025)

1116. Im ok with the letters being on the tablet but why is the pictures being stopped it dont make sense pictures should still be able to come to us nothing can be put on pictures only paper (11/5/2025)

1117. Im ok with being posted to the tablet but the one thing that i dont like is when our loved ones send photos we only get to keep them on our tablet for 6 months and they are gone. If there is something that can be changed on that everything would be good. I understand what is trying to be done cause i dont like it to. (11/5/2025)

1118. In a way its good cause it will reduce the drugs coming in ,but it is going to create other problems . For one I had a letter scaned that came from Chicago Police Freedom Of Information Officer , that letter is privilegde mail. I have ask for a copy of this letter its been at least two weeks and still have not received the copy. So if a program like this is being implemente it should be run correctly. (11/5/2025)

1119. In my opinion this method can work to a point me personally i have been waiting on some pictures from my family now since October 20, 2025 so this new policy is beneficial only for the illinois department of corrections. (11/5/2025)

1120. In not realy sure how this is working,my daughter said she was sendind me a obituary of my youngest daughters services but i never recieved it. (11/5/2025)

1121. Inmates in custody are recieving other inmates mail since the mail is now going onto the tablets to view (11/5/2025)

1122. It is dumb, the dapartment cant follow what they say about the mail change and not just that i had mail before they were to start scanning the that i never got because they kept it then scaned it. I want my mail sent to me not put on the tablet, also they dont even send the mail on the tablets to the right people here at Logan CC. They need to go back to giving people their mail but then this place is slow and stupied at everything here. (11/5/2025)

1123. It is ok but doest matter because i barley even get my mail for wat ever reason i think what ever is going on thy neee help and to fix what ever the issue is to get peoplw what they have sent in becuase if yall take long to get itt to us yall mis plac it and it never get to us .please fix (11/5/2025)

1124. IT IS OK TO RECIEVE MAILNON THE TABLET BECAUSE THAT WAY THERE ISNT A MIX UP WITH MAIL BUT ALSO IT TAKES LONGER TOO GET MAIL SCANNES AND DOWNLOADED (11/5/2025)

1125. It is taking much longer to get personal mail. Over two weeks to just get one letter. Having electronic mail does not bother me at all. But getting my mail uploaded to my tablet or

even getting copies of said mail when requested in a reasonable amount of time seems to be a problem. (11/5/2025)

1126. It make no sens (11/5/2025)

1127. It makes it harder on us to recieve mail/read mail and see picture (11/5/2025)

1128. It makes it harder to read on the tablet when you got legal mail or when your kids send a drawing ill rather have that picture rather then having to look at it on the tablet. (11/5/2025)

1129. It ok but they say you all be giving people mail to other people that not good at all (11/5/2025)

1130. It seem like it takes awhile to get mail but if i helps get the drugs out of yhe prison it worth the wait (11/5/2025)

1131. It takes about a month and a half to receive mail by tablet. Not good (11/5/2025)

1132. It takes forever to recieve the actual copies. Though it states the mail will be put on our tablets showing who it is from it is not. Every piece of mail put on the tablet just shows its mail until you open the item. They all look the same and we have to play memory as what each listing actually is. So if I want to.go.back and view an old piece of mail or picture I either have to remember where it is on the long list or just keep opening mail until I can find what I want. The company is not.listing the mail as it stated.it would. And when we request prints which is not done on their own it takes weeks if we get it at all. Also we cant buy used books from small businesses any more and have to pay high corprate prices because small books stores cant mail us the books. Its an outright lie anyone is sneeking phones and chargers in through books. Come on I been in here 23 years phones.and stuff like that only come in through staff! You all beleaving this junk? This is not going to do anything about the drugs in these places. It will still come in through staff like it always has. This rule will only make stuff harder on us and our families who will now have to.pull more money out their pockets.for books and magazines. Dont believe these lies deny this dumb rule offer us more programs with the money and give these young guys teachings on why and how to turn their lives around and.stop drug use their dying left and.right because we are stuck in these tombs every day without hope. Dont you people see this. (11/5/2025)

1133. Its been a slow process too get our Mail..Sometimes are mail is here at Vienna for 2-3 Weeks before we get it either on tablet or in Person.. (11/5/2025)

1134. Its harder to get our mail ive been here months not getting my mail on tablet or paper (11/5/2025)

1135. Its not fair to the people who dont have the tablet due to grade (11/5/2025)

1136. Its not fair to the individuals who are in seg(shu) who dont have access to the tablets so

their mail is then held on hold from them?? Also for family members who want to send pictures to loved ones. The pictures then get put on the tablet so us, inmates wont always have access to theose pictures as well. Including books that family memebers want to send inmates are now not allowed UNLESS from a publisher which put strains on what we are or not able to learn or read. Us inmates truly understand the risks of mail contraband but there should be a better way then to put all our mail on the tablets when not everyone has one and books only from publishers limits our reading and learning capability. (11/5/2025)

1137. It's not fair to every one else who don't have tablets (11/5/2025)

1138. I thought by having the mail scanned and uploaded to our tablets that it would speed up the process of getting our mail, because it would no longer have to be scanned for drugs. Just uploaded and the original copy thrown out. Then I received a notice that a letter my daughter sent me with a picture she made for me was rejected by the mail room because she used markers. Why spend all the money for scanners to scan mail if they cant just scan the mail? The drug problem hasnt gotten any better in here. Waist of money waist of time (11/5/2025)

1139. I was sent and the facility received 6 books early of september. I was denied these books without being allowed to contact any publications review officers to request the admittance of my used books. I spoke with mental health personell several times and acting warden Denessa Armstrong before the deadline of their destruction arrived. I was never afforded my legally applicable opportunity to excercise my rights as outlined by IDOC. My grandfather who is a twice retired (20 years army , then 20 years illinois state police) man with a strong sense of law and responsibility sent me those books as he always does from small business resale shops. (11/5/2025)

1140. I welcome the change but Ive been waiting 3 weeks for a obiturary of my grand-daughter Keeva Ball to be printed and sent to me! (11/5/2025)

1141. I would rather receive my mail tangibly instead of it being scanned in on my tablet and then sent to me because if they scan it improperly by omitting some pages, or not including the whole page and it can't be read legibly than what? I'll never know who sent it and how important that document was for me. If this scanning is so important supposely, why wasn't it implemented earlier. (11/5/2025)

1142. I, Antonio Morris, have a comments concerning mail scanning in IDOC. It is of the grievance variety.
According to title 20 of Illinois Administrative Code part 525 Subupart C Publications, section 525.202 [Effective until 1/11/2026] Definitions. "Publisher" includes 'educational institution'.
My grievance is that the original correspondence I received from Stratford Career Institute was not given to me. Instead, it was scanned, archieved, and posted to my tablet (with the option of receiving a photocopy) -- in direct contradiction to the memo of the policy/procedure/regulation concerning mail scanning, of which we were advised of.
The relief I want is to receive my original correspondence from Stratford Career Institute which was postmarked October 27, 2025. Then stamped, scanned and posted on November 05, 2025. (11/5/2025)

1143. I will say that the amount of time its going to take to recieve your mail isnt going to be reasonable. As of now rumor is told that Taylorville loaned there mail scanner to another prison. We have a guy as of now been waiting 3 plus weeks to recieve his pictures. They clearly have been looked at because they sent a slip to destroy pictures that were not able to be given to this inmate. My second comment about this is to do with pictures. Most people these days have photos on devices that can be uploaded and sent to tablets. With that in mind and knowing what our devices are capable of, and how long it is taking to recieve pictures they should open this capability to allow us to recieve pictures through emails. My last comment is to possibly take the email delay BACK OFF! This will allow people to recieve there mail faster and hopefully stop the influx in mail scanning. It just makes no sense to have the almost 2 hour delay when you can access the phone and send any kind of msg that way. So for a security stand point it makes no sense. Thank you for your time..... (11/5/2025)

1144. I want my photos that are sent in, i want them as they are all i have of my child . what will you do with tge original photos sent in? (11/5/2025)

1145. Its slow (11/5/2025)

1146. It's SLOW (11/5/2025)

1147. Its stupid because it takes soooo much longer to recieve your mail now. I got a halloween card postmarked on october 3rd and still havent recieved it as of november 4th. I just recieved something postmarked september 29th today november 4th. Like its ridiculous if they are going to do it like this now fine but hire more help. (11/5/2025)

1148. Its taking longer to recieve mail on tablet (11/5/2025)

1149. Joliet Treatment Center not scanning mail like they should. (11/5/2025)

1150. Jtc is not scaning our mailed pictures in color only black and white (11/5/2025)

1151. Just because mail that comes in may be too big to scan, should not be a reason not to receive it. We should be given the opportunity to see the what the mail is. (11/5/2025)

1152. Menard c.c does not have a system available for individuals in custody that would like a copy of the letter or photo that is scanned onto their tablet.
We have contacted clinical staff and cell house staff and nobody know what to do.
The memo informing us about the mail scan and procedure informs us what to do to get a copy of the mail and photo but no such process exist in this institiution.
These type of disconnect in policies in typical here, not rare (11/5/2025)

1153. My comment are that it is stupid! I just found out that logan had two scanners one of which they sent to the mens prison and the one we kept is broke so now there are sixteen (16) pallets of mail in the mail room waiting to be scanned. If this was something that was to be implimented then it should have been done with more care with a smooth transition instead

people me include are waiting for months to recieve mail. On top of that logan correctional center cant even keep the mail room staffed so even before the mail switched over it was taking months for us to recieve a simple letter which nothing has changed. But with all that being said nothing us inmates say will change anything because "THEY" are going to do what "THEY" want to do any ways.
Prisons are like an abusive relationships! They alienate us from our friends and family, they tell us what we can wear, who we can hang out with, what we can eat, how and when to spend our money and all we can do is sit there and take it. (11/5/2025)

1154. My comment is that this mailing situation is NOT working out. I have been waiting on letters of character from my family for over 1 1/2 months. These letters have to go into my legal case which HAVE to be in really soon. I know that i have got mail from friends as well and still i have not received anything. (11/5/2025)

1155. Naturally with anything new there will be issues. Patience is necessary and in this case not just from individuals-in-custody. The mailroom is under a lot of pressure. As we proceed on this path together there most certainly will need to be modifications. For example, more transparency is needed. Some areas of great concern have been:
1) many men are still uncertain of how to get physical copies if their mail. Yes, there is a memo, yet some simply do not understand. The form is not readily available and there is uncertainty on how to fill it out.
2) There are long delays in receiving the copies.
3) Our mail, once on our tablet, is always listed as 'unknown'. Yes, I am aware that once you 'hit' on the mail the envelope will appear first. However, if a person has, for example, 50 pieces of mail he would have to hit on nearly every piece of mail when he needs to refer back to that letter!
4) Some of the mail being scanned is cut off near the last few paragraphs. I have two such instances like that.
5) There are verified reports of mail being sent to the wrong tablets.
6) Many men have broken tablets and cannot receive their scanned mail. There is no written administrative procedure rectifying this. If there were more tablets available or repair turn around was quicker, this would not be an issue. Yet, it is. These men cannot get copies of their mail, in the interim, as they have no access to their document number.
7) Some men have simply refused their tablets. I simply do not understand their resistance or reluctance. I would suggest that these men could be identified and have someone sit and talk to them to discuss their concerns.
8) I am overjoyed that I very rarely smell the nasty synthetic drugs anymore. It keeps getting rarer, thankfully. I am hopeful that come January 2026, when the emergency order expires that another one will be issued. A law would be preferrable, but I read it met resistance and did not make it out of committee.
If you have further questions or inquiries I am very glad to assist you. Please contact me. Thank you.
(11/5/2025)

1156. Mail is backed up and its causing a big delay.
(11/5/2025)

1157. Mail is behind 5 weeks and if you get mutiable letters in they copy the same letter twice then giving you your other letter. (11/5/2025)

1158. Mail is taking way tolong for authorized publications to .ake.it to the inmate.once they are received. (11/5/2025)

1159. Mail takes too long to get scanned to receive. (11/5/2025)

1160. Mail takes too long. Additionally, mail from court shouldn't be scanned regardless if its "legal mail". We should get the original immediately instead of a month later. It makes it hard to copy and include these documents in court filings, esoecially if deadlines are involved. (11/5/2025)

1161. Mail that got mailed, never recieved. I know it was mailed. Co's laugh and say "mails quick now". Worse like never before. No regs for them now. (11/5/2025)

1162. Its to slow (11/5/2025)

1163. Its unfair as hell because some of us dont mess with the dumb shit and we are constantly punished from it and the mail is over a month behind thats its messed up my legal issues due to bein slow and the last three legal mail i got the mail room opened without me and stated it wasnt marked legal but it clearly stated it was from us supreme court on it and i missed my deadlime for me to reply on a case over it becaue it wasnmailed to me sept 9th andbi didnt get it until oct 26th thats pathetic this is doin nothin to help communication with anyone it makes it more difficult and causes more issues down the road (11/5/2025)

1164. I've yet to recieve any mail (11/5/2025)

1165. Iwas stuck in the xhouse for 63days and mail is backed up 30days r more...im getting mail thats postmarked in septeber still,but im not getting my date planner n puzzel books because its after oct 1st,should b a rule that postmark mail before the 1st should be let in.ididnt know none of this until i got transfered (11/5/2025)

1166. Mail already takes a while to get to inmates now we have to wait even longer for it to come in and then get scaned i understand the trying to stop drugs coming in. But you should not have inmates wait on court papers or pics from family (11/5/2025)

1167. Make the hard copy responce time from the tablet more better. (11/5/2025)

1168. Making everyone get they mail on time and stop holding peoples mail for months at a time stop taking pictures from poeples knowing they are pictures everything to us (11/5/2025)

1169. My mail is first priorty we need better handle (11/5/2025)

1170. My photos are taking too long to get to me, over a month now (11/5/2025)

1171. My pictured been taking long and getting lost can u put some one respasable and smart in the mail room. Also i dont understand why we cant get naked pics but we can get nude magazines. (11/5/2025)

1172. Not getting my mail sent to the tablet and pictures from free print .com was returned back to sender. So im not recieving my mail at all. (11/5/2025)

1173. So far the roll out has been confusing and inconsitent. Some individuals only hear rumors of mail arriving via tablet, while others continue to receive the physical copies. Overall, so far the process has been discouraging to both individuals in custody and family members. (11/5/2025)

1174. Its ok still slow as ever but we get our mail so thats the main idea only problem i have is with the orginal copies i jave a thousand pictures since ive been gone when i am released i have to turn this tablet in and my photos will be deleted i would like to mail the orignals home so me and my kids can build a timeline i was told they cant do that and i was wondering why my pictures hold sentemental value to me i dont want to lose them i have no pictures of me before 8 yrs old due to a fire i want my kids to see themselves at young ages as the grow (11/5/2025)

1175. The mail scann is not bad but bad because we only get to see our shit for the time they have the tablets on and then where is our mail going after they schann it (11/5/2025)

1176. The mail service here is not proper. The fact that the two scanners are broke. There isnt enough staff in the facility in gerenal. They dont have a proper system for anything. The mailing system is against are rights. We hae zero privacy as is. Now we cant even get our mail. Mail is federal. Its a federal CRIME TO TAMPER WITH SOMEONES MAIL! (11/5/2025)

1177. The mail scann is not bad but bad because we only get to see our shit for the time they have the tablets on and then where is our mail going after they schann it (11/5/2025)

1178. The mail room staff @ the Joliet Treatment Center facility is not sending the scanned mail/photos etc. to our tablets in color but they are supposed to according to the new departmental rules. Thank you. (11/5/2025)

1179. The mail is very upsetting now because of all the delays i have had books in the mailroom for at least a month and now im still waiting but i understaand why its still very difficult (11/5/2025)

1180. The form thats supposed to help us get our mail photo copied is Not available in menard cor.ctr.every time i ask co's for it they always say there is no form available.and who ever is scanning the mail they dont scan the whole letter,im still missing the back part of a letter that was sent to me. (11/5/2025)

1181. The electronic mail is mostly successful, but the organization for the recipients is severely lacking. First, the incoming mail is not being given to the recipients in any discernable

organizational pattern - where new documents are placed in the list appears random (not by scanned date, postmarked date, or any other patterns recognizable/viewable to the recipients). Second, the scanned documents are not being properly identified by sender; I have many letters from one identified sender while all mail from other senders and some pieces of that sender's mail are labeled "unknown" even when clearly marked on the envelope. Third, the recipients have no way to organize the scanned documents; we cannot delete documents nor move them up/down in the list nor rename scanned documents. An issue separate from the organization exists in that a few more types of mail are not being allowed due to their difficulty to scan - namely pop-up cards and the like. In regards to the modified publication approval procesures, the "Statewide Publications Determination List" should be made available to individuals in custody on the tablets (and NOT by request only because any list of approved publications at the institutional level are difficult or impossible to obtain). Finally, to improve individuals' in cutody communication capabilities, the long-message (or email) version of corrlinks should be made available (as it is to federal individuals in custody) to reduce the amount of paper mail, poatage, and scanning required for all parties. Thank you. (11/5/2025)

1182. The duration of time in which it takes the insitutions to get out each individuals mail to their tablet. 2 Also the quality of the way they scan, & print the pictures. I believe the task should be performed in 10 working days or less.
Time & Quality!!! (11/5/2025)

1183. The approved provider list for pictures and publications changed and idoc did no inform us of the change. Several inmates ordered pictures from a previously approved vender and now the insratution is refusing to scan them and will only destroy the photos. (11/5/2025)

1184. Takes to long to hear from loved ones. (11/5/2025)

1185. Now that they have switched to scanning our mail we have been getting our mail alot later. It takes about a month to get a letter from our loved ones. If they could speed things up it would be ok. (11/5/2025)

1186. People are receiving other peoples mail on their tablet. You can barely read the mail thats been scanned. Its taking two to three weeks from the postmarked date for us to receive the mail. We dont get the copies as we request them like th memo said we would. (11/5/2025)

1187. Photos should be reviewed, and given to the inmates as was currently being allowed. So when released i can take photo memories home to put in family albums (11/5/2025)

1188. Putting incoming mail from our families and friends is a good idea to stop the influx of illegal substances from getting into the institutions. I went through hell in Illinois River Correctional Center with cellies who smoked. And it was rare to get a cell mate who did not smoke. However, I think that all publications sent from the publisher or company should be alowed including pictures from other sources such as freeprints and emeelio. (11/5/2025)

1189. My famile dont talk to me (11/5/2025)

1190. Nothing to say (11/5/2025)

1191. None (11/5/2025)

1192. None
(11/5/2025)

1193. It doesnt have any affect with me really. (11/5/2025)

1194. Its stupid (11/5/2025)

1195. Its all Bullshit (11/5/2025)

1196. I don't like this digital mail (11/5/2025)

1197. I really dont like it (11/5/2025)

1198. I support the proposed bill to change the mail. (11/5/2025)

1199. Its alright (11/5/2025)

1200. Its a good thing (11/5/2025)

1201. Great! 1000 (11/5/2025)

1202. I,think it's a good idea to help keep drug's out of our prison. (11/5/2025)

1203. Resteictions on our mail privilages violates federal regulations for mail. Mail is a federal right and cannot be imposed on by state statute. When ibwentbthrough recieving i signed a document stating that my mail can be opened and read before being delivered to me. I never agree upon having my mail photocopied or with held from me just because the mail officers are too lazy to do their jobs properly. My personal mail has nothing to do with what a few certain individuals do to theirs. I should not be punishe because a few inmates decided to havebtheir mail sprayed with drugs or had their family or friends bring in the drugs. Again that falls of the officers to do their jobs properly and this should not be put against me because they cannot do so. If that inmate wants to bring drugs in, punish them. Do not punish me or my family because officers in illinois department of corrections are too incompetant or lazy to do their jobs correctly. On another note, pinckneyville cc does not label who the mail is from, nor do they provide a copy, in color, like was stated in the memo about the mail changes. Also they restrict educational materials from coming in from schools for correspondance courses and do not give origional certificates for corespondace vocational training courses. I should be able to have my origional certificate that i worked hard to obtain and not just a black and white version printed on some cheap printer paper. Finally cards and hand made cards from our family and especially our childrwn ahould not be with held from us. The cards from our kids are sentimental and vital to our mental well being while incarcerated. They do not reproduce any of them, simple just photo copy them on cheap printer paper, again, in black and white. Reguardless of mail restrictions

imposed on regular mail, drugs and drug paraphanalia can still get in. It can still be carrie in by person, even by correctional officers as this facility recent found out, as well as thrown, shot, dropped or other forms by or around the ground to the facility. It can also come in by legal mail. Lawyers love money. Money can and will buy anything. It can simply be prepared by someone at home brought to a lawyer have him fill out the documents and mail them to the inmate. The lawyer doesnt even have to know. Imposing this bill will not stop the ineviteble. If we want drugs, we will find them. If we want weapons, we will get those also. Instead of puniahing everyone for a few bad inmates mistakes, come down as hard as possible on the ones who are doing it. A DR504-203 drugs/drug paraphanalia doesnt even get you in trouble. It carries zero restrictive housing time, no b or c grade, and barely 6 months of commissary restriction. No vharges, nothing. Might a well just le them keep the drugs because they get no punishment for it anyways. (11/5/2025)

1204. Same old story, punish all, for the few! Not everyone in prison gets high! No one wants to address the elephant in the room and admit that some C/O's are the problem and that paper in as well. Mail is already slow, this will make things even slower. What about the ones like me that are Pro-Se litigants and have a retired stand by counsel helping them out with there case. A retired attorney is NOT part of the BAR anymore, but that don't mean he is not an attorney anymore. The BAR is nothing more than a guild, and a organization that charges a frivilous fee for memebership like a Sam's Club! Ther is no commitment to the RULE OF LAW in this State or Country. I mean the United States means a "Federal Corporation," NO? It is nothing buy business to the powers that may be. Big business. It is sad to say the least. One last food for thought, as the sayin goes, if there's a will, there's a way. So with that being said, the real criminals will find another way to do what they want to do and have been doing. This state focuses on issues that mean nothing, they don't focus on real Laws to help us get home to our loved ones. They spend hard earn taxpayers money for shit that is frivolous!!! (11/5/2025)

1205. Scaning the mail is not stopping the drugs from coming in. They are still coming in and its not the mail. Its the people who work here. (11/5/2025)

1206. Scary (11/5/2025)

1207. Seriously? How many times has some GENIUS tried to smuggle in weapons/electronics through the mail? The few who have, have gotten caught & had new charges added to their time.The drugs I get but there are ways to pervent them from coming in. Why not try DOGS, why is the only answer to stop mail? What about the PHYSICAL letters/cards our love ones send us, people hang on to those. Now I'll only be able to have them for 6 months on my tablet. I still have letters/cards from my dad who passed away 13+ years ago. I think it suck, but since it'll make work easier I'm sure it's not gonna change
(11/5/2025)

1208. Shits weak (11/5/2025)

1209. Shitty
(11/5/2025)

1210. Stoping the mail is NOT going to stop people in prison from getting high! (11/5/2025)

1211. Stupid (11/5/2025)

1212. Stupid (11/5/2025)

1213. Stupid as fuck (11/5/2025)

1214. Thank you for bringing the outdated mail system into the 21st century; electronic mails are more convenient. That being said, I wish that our mail would stay in the cloud indefinetely so that we can still have access to it once we go home. That is all. Thank you.
(11/5/2025)

1215. Thank you for doing your best to get what ever that is there smoking out of the prisons it seems to have helped a small amount but keep trying new thangs small amounts add up that stuff affect us that do not use drugs in bad ways we go to seg for no reason have to deal with people in the cell with us wile there freaking out and getting sick all over your stuff listen there is so much more to the stuff that you guys dont see it is a huge problem that affects the people that dont induldge in the drug thank you for caring
(11/5/2025)

1216. Thank you for edovo I feel it is needed for.us in IDOC because.the lack of education programs it gives us a chance to rehabiliate ourselves when thos services are not given to us by IDOC once again Thank you for given me personal a great opportunity to invest my time into something positive. (11/5/2025)

1217. Thank you for taking the time to read this. I do agree with the department when they say that we have a drug problem. This is a serious situation that needs a resolution. But I think that this is a bit extreme. Our problem is not that we have drugs coming through the mail. Our problem is that those in the mailroom, the staff and officers, refuse to do their jobs. Oddly though most of the "staff exposure" cases have been a farce. I have never done a narcotic in my entire life yet I was celled with two different inmates that smoked while I was in the room. The officers claim that we "must be immune some sort of way" to the drugs. What kind of statement is this??? Does a guilty verdict give me a certain level of immunity to the same things they are allegedly falling out from? Come on! We know better. Both of my cellies smoked while I was there. Was it short-lived? Most definitely. But I was in a sustained situation of inhalation of the drugs. So ask me again...is it really the mail that is the problem? The rules set in place have strength enough for the current predicament. What we need is ACTUAL enforcement of said rules. I have not received a single ticket in over 9 years of being incarcerated. I try to follow the rules. But the ones that do not are usually the ones that get the breaks. I have families and friends that love me and now I can't get an obituary from a loved one, a simple letter, a card, or a book that they thought was good for my rehabilitation and state of mind. Why? Because the fools are not getting disciplined. I am! Why? The rules are in place for a reason. Discipline those nuts that want to do drugs, make hooch, continue in the fleshly ways, or are disrespectful to those charged in our well-being! This is not rocket science. I love books. But now I have to pay elaborate shipping prices for another idiot's sin? I am paying the price for my crime! There has to be

another way. Crazy thing is, there are hardback books in the library, chapel, and school. Don't you think that these "stupid" criminals will find a way to use these avenues? All of these facilities are in disrepair. There happens to be elements for shanks all through this place. Metal is loose. Wood falls off of everything. Paint is chipping. Tiles are broken. All of these are weapons. I just saying fix what needs to be fixed. I think that this mail thing is nonsense. Because we all know that it comes through legal mail! Just saying... Once again, thanks for your time. (11/5/2025)

1218. Thank You for,trying new changes regarding.illegal substanes coming in the prison system,i look forward of theses new chances thank you again (11/5/2025)

1219. Thank you! (11/5/2025)

1220. Thankful for your efforts to hinder the infiltrations of poisons (11/5/2025)

1221. Thanks for adding this program haved learned so much from this (11/5/2025)

1222. Thanks for all you guy ate doing to better us and to get us through thing we couldnt acomplished on our own (11/5/2025)

1223. Thanks for everything Edovo, Fastcase, Score7T, IC Solutions, IDOC, Post Master General, USPS, US Marshals, DEA, SSA, FBI, FCC, IRS, USDA, FDA, SBA, NSA, Department of Justice, OGIS & the CIA. Thank you Sincerly Tyler Ray Burlington Please help me find KK Katherine Faught and help her add her name to 333 Wyckles Road Room 104 Decatur Il 62522. Give her one year possibly two years coronavirus aid relief I had residency at the addreess and my home was illegally demolished 1062 Packard St. Decatur IL 62522. Id look threw the copy machine\ scanner at IDOC here in Centralia IL to make sure all my mail grievances and request slips have been pushed forward. Issuesat three facilities with electronic malpractic altered documents unreadable after scanned. Ask cyber security for scanner\copier\printer for original data. Thanks. S09763 346-82-7990 04-07-1989 120719 Tyler Ray Burlington Help Kk get a goverment phone with the number 217-859-2193 on J3 Samsung phone.
(11/5/2025)

1224. Thanks for this program it truly helped me with my future goals. I learned something new everyday and cant wait to show my family how much your program change my life. (11/5/2025)

1225. Thanks for wanting me too do this (11/5/2025)

1226. Thanks to Acting Director L.Hughes history was made as it was with other state getting the reg to be allowed after so many times lock downs happen to us Illinios inmates from mail sick people sent to Illinios Correction Ctr inside envelopes in regard to help inmates get a drug usage eventing in some very nice correction officers to be hospitalize.This new mail type is more then only one blessing that came down aftre prayers went up.My thumbs up for any better I.D.O.C regs that makes its more positive for me and others including staff in the near future on the table only waiting to become another better wider window of success by any means.

(11/5/2025)

1227. That good (11/5/2025)

1228. That good all these guys get high off paper (11/5/2025)

1229. That is not right for the I.D.O.C to be withholding our personal mail and pictures our family an love ones send us.Because that is meaningful things to us that we value in jail mail and pictures our family send us.Plus you fo not want your personal mail and pictures with you families personal information in nobody elses hands.No disrespect to the staff who our handling our mail.Its just my personal opinion. (11/5/2025)

1230. That is very good that you all are trying to keep the drug out of jail so i am with you i hope this can help because our young people need some help they are trying to kill them self faster
(11/5/2025)

1231. That our family be able to send us digital pictures and videos directly from their device to ours. (11/5/2025)

1232. That shit is absurt its pointless (11/5/2025)

1233. That shit is stupid just give is are fucking mail (11/5/2025)

1234. That shit os stupod (11/5/2025)

1235. (11/5/2025)

1236. That would be good. (11/5/2025)

1237. Thats not the best way to do us with the mail. Yall should figure out how to give us our mail without a problem. (11/5/2025)

1238. The mail changes to the prison mail system will without a doubt make the prison system a lot safer. It'll reduce violence, etc... as a result of staff intercepting drugs brought in through the mail. Just another step of making the prison enviorment safer. I agree with this changes to ensure the safety of the public, employees, and the inmates. (11/5/2025)

1239. The 7th Circuit has already held that we have a constitutiinal right to determine what happens to our mail once it is sent to us. As of now the institution takes our mail including information sensitive mail and destroy it after it is posted on the tablet. We entitled to determine what happensto that mail.
Moreover, i have already requested to have mail reprinted. The institution has responded they are waiting on DHS. In the meantime i am unable to handle my business.
I would also suggest pictures going directly through ICSolutions. (11/5/2025)

1240. The all day system changes anyway so I have no choice but to like whats he outcome of here. (11/5/2025)

1241. The change dosnt bother me (11/5/2025)

1242. The change in the mail is useless and a very inconvince for all of us. That includes individuals im custody as well as staff. We get our mail on the tablets and it is blurred, thr pages not in the correct order, you have to tirn your tablet several times cause they scanned your papers in all types of directions. The staff really dont want to deal with it. My pictures or lettets from my love ones i might wake up in the middle of the night and need that comfort an encouragement that they bring bt I cant cause I cant acess my tablet after an before a certain time. Drugs been coming into these places since they were built, its not going to stop, it only makes it more profitable. (11/5/2025)

1243. The change is a good thing and i think it should have been put in play months ago (11/5/2025)

1244. The change is dumb because they're never going to stop the drugs from coming in. Cause if they could they would have been stopped them without changing the mailing system. Plus some of they're own staff is bringing it in anyway. (11/5/2025)

1245. The change to make all mail digital and beimg able to request a photocopy is all good to help prevent drugs coming in. I have an issue with all my mail being all labled as unknown and not being able to request mail by there name to get my pictures to me. If there is any way to help make this whole process run smooth and being able to get people their mail and pictures would help alot. (11/5/2025)

1246. The changes are horrible. Getting rid of physical mail eliminates the personal touches of our correspondence. (11/5/2025)

1247. The changes are working great it cuts down the contraband and unwanted items from entering the prisons also the time it takes for mail isnt longer so i feel its a great new system (11/5/2025)

1248. The changes in the mail are not necessary. People will find a way to do all the things the department is claimimng to prevent. Further, people that have an extended period of time to reside in prison are being denied the sentimental value of mail from loved ones. I recently was forced to destroy or mail home greeting cards from loved ones that are no longer with me. The void this has brought me cannot be filled or replaced. Reading our loved ones words on a screen is not the same. Think of a child opening a gift, tearing the gift wrapping paper. This is the equivlent to receiving a birthday card or christmas card from loved ones. This rule is doing more harm than good. (11/5/2025)

1249. The changes still doesn't makes sense, for one you still have to handle the mail to scan it. Then secondly, you got to have enough people to scan the mail. It was tough just to get the regular mail, if they felt like passing it out. Now it's going to be a longer wait to just get it scan.

(11/5/2025)

1250. The changes to mail is inconveinant for people due to lack of knowledge of the use of the tables some of our family and loved ones dont know how to use the technoledgy. (11/5/2025)

1251. The Changes To Mail Is Not Right. They Are Forcing This Electronic Mail On Us Individuals In Custody Because There Has Not Been A Bill/Law Passed Enforcing Such Task. I Believe We Should Keep Paper Mail Because It Connects Us More To Loved Ones And Friends, We Can Keep The Paper Mail As Memories Instead Of The Mail Being Deleted In 6 Months, Also Some Individuals In Custody Write Their Loved Ones Who Are Incarcerated As Well. I Understand You Guys Are Trying To Help Us Individuals In Custody To Keep Up With Technology From The Real World But At The Same Time You Guys Are Punishing Us. How? By Not Letting Us Keep Our Paper Mail. What If A Loved One Dies And Their Obituary Get Sent To Us. After 6 Months The Facility Well Delete The Obituary. Thats Not Right At All Because We Want To Keep Things Of That Nature As A Memory. As Being Connected To Them By Having Some What A Piece Of The Deceased With Us. Then i Have A Sister And Brother Thats Incarcerated i Write To And Once i Go Home i Want To Take All Their Letters With Me So i Can Be Able To Reread Them When i Want. Its The Closeness We Feel With The Paper Mail. Plus If You Guys Are Punishing Everyone By This Not Just The Ones Who Smuggle Contraband Into Facilities. A Solution To That Is Get A List Of Individuals Who Have Done It Or The Ones Who Have Smoked It Before And Montior Their Mail Not The Individuals In Custody Thats In Compliance. The Individuals Thats In Compliance Feel They Are Being Punished For Something They Didnt Do Nor Have Any Control Over. I Understand People Do Dumb Shit i Get It But You Guys Cant Punish Everybody With The Mail Process Changes. Its Not Fair To Every Individual In Custody. Thats Like Making Me Do My Time And Someone Else Time Even Though i Didnt Commit That Crime. Also A Bill/Law Never Passed Stating That IDOC Have To Enforce This Mail Rule Change. So Honestly Thats A Violation To Our Human Rights And Constitution Rights As Individuals In Custody. This Mail Rule Change Shouldnt Be In Effect Nor Exist Because Its Not Law At All. Since Its Not Law Why Are IDOC Enforcing This Such Madness Upon Us. This Is Bogus All Around The Board. No Individual Should Go Through This At All. I Understand To Keep Individuals I And Staff Safe But Mail Is Delayed And Behind 7-8 Months Already Then You All Force This New Mail Policy Upon Us Which Adds More Stress. Not Only To Individuals In Custody But To Staff As Well Because Staff Have To Do Extra Work Then Before. Mail Is Federal So How Can IDOC Override The Government And Make Their Own Rules To Enforce Them? Answer Me That? Its All Bullshit In My Opinion. Then You Guys Are Putting A Limit On Our Mail By Telling Us Who It Can Come From, How It Have To Come, And Also Our Family And Friends Cant Leave Us Books Or Magazines No More Once They Visit Us. JUST KEEP PAPER MAIL TAKE AWAY THIS SCANNING BULLSHIT BECAUSE NO MATTER WHAT YOU GUYS DO DRUGS WILL ALWAYS BE IN THE FACILITY. PLEASE KEEP PAPER MAIL BECAUSE THE SCANNING MACHINE CANT EVEN DETECT WHATEVER CHEMICAL IS BEING USED. THIS IS ALL BULLSHIT AND YOU GUYS KNOW IT. YOU GUYS JUST WANNA MAKE INDIVIDUALS IN CUSTODY TIME HARDER THAN WHAT IT HAVE TO BE. YOU MOTHERFUCKERS ARE LAZY, HAVE US IN UNHUMANE CONDITIONS, AND DOESNT CARE ABOUT OUR MENTAL, PHYSICAL, OR EMOTIONAL HEALTH AT ALL. (11/5/2025)

1252. The changes to our mail are absolutely ridiculous. We should be able to receive our physical mail from our loved ones. This is the only way many of us are able to connect with the outside world. To not be able to hold pictures of our children, parents, brothers, sisters, cousins etc. affects us tremendously. We should not have to rely on a device to view our photos and letters. We should not have access to our mail for only 6 months on our devices before it is deleted forever. We should not have to request for a physical copy of our mail. This mail belongs to us and the IDOC should NOT be allowed to hold onto our mail and dispose of it after 6 months. Mail is so important and meaningful. Why would you take this away from us? (11/5/2025)

1253. The changes to the mail are quite confusing on both sides. Ive been having complications in receiving pictures and other correspondences since the beginning of this of this incsrceration. I know its a knew system in place to try to stop incoming foreign material however some of us are concerned with receiving importsnt time sensoitive mail thst we are not receiving such as pell grant paperwork thst has a time stamp. (11/5/2025)

1254. The changes to the mail policy directly impact ability of incarcerated persons to effectively communicate,via mail,with organizations that are educational in nature.I am a graduate of NEIU's University Without Walls degree program and am still in concert with many professors that do research on various topics that seek the input of incarcerated alumni.Not being able to physically read and research the materials is a hinderance to the connections,ideology transfer,and network capabilities of the incarcerated.I honor the opportunity to continue to network with professors,and other researchers that I have come to know and with whom I have been privileged to work.At times,the research materials can be of large bulk and the best way to do the required work or reading is to have the physical copies of the material,not to mention,many times I have to go back to other material that has been previously sent to do further or followup research.Also,there are other disadvantages to not receiving the physical mail sent to us.There are sentimental values in pictures of or drawn by young children and grandchildren,cards and letters written to uplift spirits,and at times the obituaries of passed loved ones and friends.These are all priceless items that no digital reproduction can come near in sentimental value! (11/5/2025)

1255. The changes to the mail system doesn't make sense to me, and i say this because the tablets isn't our persinal tablets, and this means that all our our (individuals in custody) personal information is accessible to all people involved with accessing these tablets. After 6 months our mail will be removed from the tablets, and the question is what about people that will never go home and the only pictures they will have is current ones. This system removes sentimental value. (11/5/2025)

1256. The changes, as proposed, are not thurough. (11/5/2025)

1257. The biggest thing is in making sure that we get ALL of our mail. There have already been examples where inmates are only receiving partial letters, etc. Im all for changes, especially if it helps curb the current drug problem. What im not for is having my right to communicate with my family, friends, etc. messed with. (11/5/2025)

1258. The books, pictures that are sent by family i would want returned back to my family, also having whoever is in charge see actual bank statements that has bank pin numbers that mail should not be scanned it should be given to the incarcerated individual (11/5/2025)

1259. The catch-22 is that the regulation of controlled substance has progressed the delinquency of chemical abusers to micro toxins and paper based intoxicants. This is no reason to invade the privacy of all inmates when mediations can still be abused amd smuggled. Toxins will always be a vehicle for free will and independence and digitizing our mail is inconsequential to those who see nothing wrong with abusing medication or cleaning supplies, chemicals or anything else they can get a buzz from. Testing that has proven inconsistent is part of the problem. Keeping our mail on file is just another way to micromanage an epidemic of brain damaging proportions. Step one-eliminate batteries from inmate access. Make personal grooming device rechargeable ONLY. you are making no difference in trafficking by regulation mail. (11/5/2025)

1260. The catch-22 is that your regulation of controlled substances has progressed the delinquency of abusers of chemicals to micro substance almost impossible to regulate. The (11/5/2025)

1261. If it helps stop the drug problem around here then I'm for it. (11/5/2025)

1262. If it helps the officers and keeps the stupid stuff out , i think it is a great thing . (11/5/2025)

1263. If you really want to stop the flow of drugs into doc facilitys you should be looking at staff cause thats how the majority of the drugs get in and inmates use cimicals like bug spray and other things to make it inside other states have tried this mail prosses with very little to no success on stopping the intake of drugs or other substances all this does is makes doing time for us that follow the rules harder and more stressfull wjat should be done is stiffer punishments for the person caught with it and the ones who brings or sends in the contriband sorry for any spelling issues and thank you for your time
(11/5/2025)

1264. I'm a non violent, non contraband smuggling, non problem inmate. I don't do drugs, I don't fight, I don't cause problems. I'm only expecting regular mail, magazines and Magic The Gathering cards to be sent in. We can't afford to waste money on contraband nor can we afford to have it sent in... It's absurd to me that IDOC expects my people to pay good money to have pictures printed and sent in or pay good money for greeting cards just so you can scan and destroy them...
Thanks to the new changes my people have told me they're not going to waste money sending me anymore pictures or greeting cards just so they can be destroyed. So now I have to spend the next four years without pictures of My Daughters, My Family, My Friends, My Pets...
At a minimum there needs to be an option to have things sent back to our people at our expense, but a fairer option to have things sent back at IDOC's expense because expecting us to pay for return shipping is also absurd. (11/5/2025)

1265. Im glad changes are being made. The drug problem is overwhelming. (11/5/2025)

1266. im glad that there are changes but i dont know how people still getting k2 inside the facilaties (11/5/2025)

1267. Im happy to see the department of corrections finally starting to do something about the drugs (the smell is so nasty) in the illinois department of corrections.thank you.but as an inmate living in one of the worst prisons in the state i do believe the process is going after the wrong way to solve this problem.but im happy to see any effort ,for the longest there was nothing from the system to help it,and trust me as i sit in my cell at this moment writting this i can smell it as well as see the co walk by so he must smell it as well.the use has become to normal and ignored for to long.and i do not believe coming in and tossing cells and causing havic is a solotion.in my humble opinion id rather think that some cleaver thinking would work alot better ,and yes i have ideas on how it would and could work.but thank you for attempting to do something ,anything . (11/5/2025)

1268. Im happy as hell that you guys are finally starting to pay attention to this mail problem with the drugs coming in. Im tired of smelling this paper people smoke. Good for IDOC on stoping this smoking problem. (11/5/2025)

1269. Im ok with that (11/5/2025)

1270. Im sorry i didnt realize what this was until i read the about me part of the survey. I have no questions at this time. It sounds very understandable. (11/5/2025)

1271. I.D.O.C is really starting to show there colors!! Its not fair to stop paper mail, do to what they say whats goin on in thee department of corrections. Its a whole lot of worse things goin on beside thee smoking K2 or whatever they claim to be, thats coming in here!!!! Which yes i agree is really messed up. But the real problem is, its always short staff, SOME STAFF NOT ALL PROVOKE INDIVIDUALS IN CUSTODY!!!!!!!!!. TAKING PICTURES, FOOD, MAIL, AND ESPECIALLY WHEN THERE IS A LEVEL 1 LOCK DOWN NO INDIVIDUAL IN CUSTODY SHOULD'NT BE WORKING!!!!!!! MAIL IS BEHIND CERTAIN STAFF PLAYS WITH MAIL ETC..... SO PLEASE DONT STOP THE MAIL THANK YOU & GOD BLESS!!!! (11/5/2025)

1272. Idoc is not making a great choice by scanning mail! How is it the officers are ONLY being affected by "foreign(drugs) substances" sprayed on incoming mail? The biggest threat to idoc is the rulemakers and the radical not inmate friendly, propaganda pushing, drug addict officials that have been appointed to make rules for the whole idoc community. This will only further put a strain on the illinois residents and continue to push this extreamist agenda! (11/5/2025)

1273. If iDOC correctional officers did there job there would be no need to put our mail on the tablet. It is the iDOC C.O's bringing drugs into the prisons. They can stop letting us get paper mail but it will be quickly noticed that the drugs do not stop! A piece of drugs the size of a state I.D. is worth at least $500. The C.O.s make a lot of money by bring it in for inmates to sell.. In

states like missouri they get mail on there tablets and the "paper- drugs" still flood the prisons. If you want to stop the drugs it starts with stopping the c.o.s. i know all of this because i am an inmate. People, C.O.s can look at us as hard as they want but they will never fully understand what is going on because they are not on the inside they are on the outside looking in no matter how close they are looking. Nothing will be done. This survey is a joke and you are all pieces of shiit!! For taking my mail because of the Drugs that iDOC's C.O.'s bring in the prison (11/5/2025)

1274. If there is a problem with some of the individuals mail whether due to drugs or anything else do not take it on me. I did not violate the rules I should not be punished for the maddness. (11/5/2025)

1275. If this keeps drugs from here good then hopefully we can stop being locked down two to three days a week its effecting my good time and keeping me in prison longer while the drug consulors sit on there ass and do nothing (11/5/2025)

1276. If this system actually works the way it is claimed it will then i think it will be helpful in putting an end to some of the smuggleing but i dont see being a very big success in the grand scheme (11/5/2025)

1277. Im glad for the unfortunate. Some of us dont have a choice to be sober... (11/5/2025)

1278. Im not sure what is going with the scanning of mail at this time. Is it or is it not being scanned at this time. However, I do understand why it's being proposed to scan incoming mail. Scanning mail won't prevent / stop â€œcontrabandâ€□ from coming into the facility. I worry about the impact of not being able to receive a handwritten letter, a card, etc... from family. Getting handwritten letters and things are personal and often times become sentimental during periods of incarceration. (11/5/2025)

1279. Im upset that the masses are once again having to suffer for the stupidity of a few people. I understand the facilities concern for safety, however, what you are doing simply doesnt work. Im in my 21st year of incarceration. Im a mother and grandmother. Im blessed to still have a strong support network. This is because over these decades Ive been able to order personalized cards for each family member, Ive sent dozens of birthday, Christmas cards, thinking of you cards, etc. This personal touch has enabled me to stay connected with loved ones and encouraged them to write back to me. Now youve removed any option to order these special cards, replacing them with a single card on commissary that costs $3 (!!!), compared to the $.33 that I paid for cards from Current or Christian books. The way you are handling our mail is disruptive to any kind of family unity. Sept. was my birthday and many people sent me birthday cards, but so far Ive only recieved one, and it was a month beyond the postmark. Ive not recieved any mail since, more than a month later. There is no way you can scan and process the amount of mail we have coming in, in any type of timely fashion. I believe its inhumane to not let us have our mail. Nothing is as precious as holding a drawing from a grandchild or a handwritten letter from one of my children. The same with photographs, we do not want these scanned and put on our tablets. I want to hold them and keep them to look at them any time, not having to go out to the day room to access wifi. How are we to maintain these family relationships when it takes weeks

or months to recieve our mail? And how do you propose to hold 6months of our mail? You cant even stay current now. In addition, there is no identification on the digital recieved mail, rather it says UNKOWN, not even a date or name to be able to look something up. To use the phones, since we have such weak wifi power, we have to go into the dayroom. This system is crap, dropping calls frequently, simply not enough power. Real mail is the primary way to stay connected with my family and loved ones. We have people in the mail room who do not care if we recieve our mail and therefore, they arent doing a good job. Ive got a church pen pal who has to wait months to hear back from me. You all are making this way to difficult. If you must scan, allow the senders to email us and use attachments to send pictures to us. I dont like you having 6months worth of mail sitting around or not recieving my photos. Im just VERY UPSET at the way you are handling this transition. How about you just punish the oned who are causing the problems? Not punish the masses for the stupidity of the few? (11/5/2025)

1280. I'm very upset about the mail order and how the deep state was allowed to take our physical mail away because they couldnt do their jobs. They have been trying to do this for years and to lie about drugs coming in on the mail was buulshit!!!!! (11/5/2025)

1281. In my opinion they should not change the way mail is done here. It is against Federal Law to tamper with the mail. This instution does many practices that are illegal and they justify it by saying that we are inmate so they have the right to goes though our mail against Federal Law. For example, our Legal Mail is suppose to be opened and searched in front of us, but it never is. We get it preopened and then stapled back closed. This is just one of many things they do. I personal do nit mind them opening my regular mail and inspecting it but my Legal Mail, yes I do mind. If they are worried about drugs coming in to the prison they should more investigating into what is coming in and find ways to detect those things. (11/5/2025)

1282. In regards, to the proposed changes to how we receive mail in IDOC I say this. It is my opinion, that scanning the mail will make little difference at all. As of today Wednesday, November 5th, 2025. Individuals in Custody are still using drugs in IDOC. Nothing has changed, and in all honesty I don't expect it too. I would like to see the statistics of success in other states running these same programs. The problem is, it is no secret to staff which individuals are are using drugs, yet you offer no drug treatment options for those caught. You offer no options for mental health treatment. Corrections is solely for the purpose of punishment, and that is what is happening. We as individuals in custody, the vast majority who do not use drugs, are having our letters from loved ones, birthday cards, christmas cards, and anything else sent from home taken away. The removal of such things removes our connection to those we love. The drawing that a child has drawn for the parent incarcerated, is no longer in the hands of the receiving parent. Its on a device, because that gives the illusion of safety.
In 2012, I received a Bachelors of Science in Criminal Justice Administration. Part of my studies was on the prison system, and how Criminal Justice Reform was needed. If the restriction of letters from home is Illinois' idea of reform, then that is greatly mistaken. IDOC needs change, we need to be treated more like human beings. Those who violate the rules should face strict consequences, but punishing every individual in custody for the actions of a few drug addicts is not the answer. In the 40 years of my life I have never used drugs, nor abused alcohol. I am in custody for crimes I committed, and I accept responsibility for those crimes. The system needs to focus on reform, and theraputic options. I know therapy can help. I speak this as one who not

only has a Bachelors degree, but also a Master's in Psychology. Even now, I still continue in my own studies, because IDOC does not do enough to help others like myself. We feel abandoned by the system, and then upon release many often return because of the failures of the system. Serious change needs to happen, scanning the mail is not the proper change. (11/5/2025)

1283. Isnt fair to make or allow everyone mail to go digital! (11/5/2025)

1284. it a bunch of B.S. it not fair to us, this place needs to shut down, i am sick and tkired of theses lazy ass Staff. (11/5/2025)

1285. It a completely unnecessary policy. Inmates are still over dosing. IDOC
seeking to turn a blind eye to how drugs are really entering these facilities. I believe the focus should be on the staff.
We inmates are stripped search on visits
and the mail is being scanned now how is it possible that inmates are responsible. (11/5/2025)

1286. It good (11/5/2025)

1287. It feels like this would be a violation of our rights in some way. (11/5/2025)

1288. It doesnt really bother me i barely received mail unless it was a card or pictures. (11/5/2025)

1289. It is a good change becuase now it is hard to get the drug (11/5/2025)

1290. It is a great inconveinience (11/5/2025)

1291. It is a waste of time and tax payer money if those funds are being used. There are way better ways to use the funds being used... such as hiring more teachers, counselors, mental health staff to offer the much more needed services for rehabilitation. IDOC only seems to focus on the negatives instead of ways to improve the facilities. They focus on ways to censor instead of ways to keep us busy and using our time productively. Ppl who use drugs 9Ã—'s out of 10 do it out of bordom and due to being locked in their cells or unit all day. They need to change the way they run the facilities into privileges/benefits for good conduct (for all), to the loss of those benefits/privileges if we mess up. But real incentives not what they consider incentives now which are meaningless. They need to look at what other states are doing. The mail thing I doubt will change anything. (11/5/2025)

1292. It is coming into the prisons through legal mail you havent stopped anything they are still steadily smoking that terrible shit it hasnt even slowed these smokers down I personally am in fear for my health and safety Please Do Even More To Stop This!! (11/5/2025)

1293. It is essential in the drug facilitys instopping the introduction of narcotics to.facilitys the mail change.is good (11/5/2025)

1294. It is not going to work. (11/5/2025)

1295. It is not good that we have to pay for IDoC lack of securty when it comes to adressing the problem with the mail (11/5/2025)

1296. It is retarded. When is the last time a drone came over the fence. If somthing is comming in its trough the c.o.'s or outside grounds and warehouse workers (11/5/2025)

1297. It is the right thing to do stop all the drug from coming in (11/5/2025)

1298. It is what it is (11/5/2025)

1299. It is what it is (11/5/2025)

1300. It not right what they are doing to us about our mail.. (11/5/2025)

1301. It is to me, what everything else is in this place. What will change if the return rate in prison, is as high as 50%. I see no help being really given to do better. If so then we should have acess to better programing etc. To much time sitting around cause to many problems, like those who do drugs etc.. But on the same NOTE you all pass out drugs like candy. Over all I agree to the change because I if thing continue as is somebody going to die or hurt someone else in a drug state of mind. (11/5/2025)

1302. It really doest matter (11/5/2025)

1303. It saddens me that we hire staff to do a job, amd because they are too lazy, not properly trained, and unwilling to do their job, that we suffer. (11/5/2025)

1304. It seems like a good decision to me. (11/5/2025)

1305. It shouldve been happened (11/5/2025)

1306. It sounds like a great idea. Should help with the stupid drug use in our prison system (11/5/2025)

1307. It suck (11/5/2025)

1308. It sucks (11/5/2025)

1309. It sucks that they have to put the letters and pictures on the tablet (11/5/2025)

1310. It sucks. (11/5/2025)

1311. It sucks. (11/5/2025)

1312. It time that there will be a change in the mail because smelling all that smoke makes my health bad. (11/5/2025)

1313. It totally bull crap The flow of that K2 roach spray not go stop.It ALL WAY BEEN ANOTHER way It money made.You know how it getting in if ...,. (11/5/2025)

1314. It was ok I dont get mail. But for the people who get mail thay dont like it . But if we get the mail at the same time it all good and ok. (11/5/2025)

1315. It will fix almost nothing. The corrections Officers will start bringing it in for us, and be paid lots of money to do it. (11/5/2025)

1316. It will help alot of death from paper (11/5/2025)

1317. It would be disingenous for me to say that i look forward to the potential inconvenience, but I understand the reasoning behind the rule changes for mail. (11/5/2025)

1318. It would be nice to change rules for better. (11/5/2025)

1319. Its a dumb idea on the change of rules about the mail as an inmate in the department of corrections the drugs coming in through the mail is not the main way drugs make it into prisons. Most drugs are brought in through visits or by staff making extra money on the side. The mail is a small percentage of the drugs actually making it into the prison system. It hurts everybody who is following the rules by limiting thier mail because of the few who are breaking therules to do what they have to, to get by. We are prisoners and at the end of the day if drugs are a part of the world they/we will always find a way to get them into the prisons we are stuck in. Change one thing and open a door for a million new problems and with people that have nothing to lose money is money and they will find a way to make it no matter what. (11/5/2025)

1320. Its a good AND a bad thing!! Due to this change,we're not eligible to get certain letters or birthday/holiday cards from our friends and family!! I go home on 3/6/2026,so to me personally? it doesnt bother me due to that fact!! But in reality, this change is NOT going to change anything!! (11/5/2025)

1321. It will reduce the amount of drugs coming in, but unless they can find a way to legally digitize the legal mail, the drug laced paper will still come in. I heard people talking and they are going to circumvent the new policy by getting their lawyers to send it in through legal mail. (11/5/2025)

1322. Its all BS move the dope heads and leave the rest of us alone (11/5/2025)

1323. Its all good (11/5/2025)

1324. Its all good with me (11/5/2025)

1325. ITS BADD REALL BAD FO WHAT!!!! REZEN IS IT (11/5/2025)

1326. Its bogus (11/5/2025)

1327. Its dumb and i for one dont think that should be happening (11/5/2025)

1328. Its fine (11/5/2025)

1329. Its fine by me because it keeps the prisons clean and keeps the C.O.s safe.. (11/5/2025)

1330. Its fine wit me (11/5/2025)

1331. Its fucked up (11/5/2025)

1332. Its great (11/5/2025)

1333. Its great (11/5/2025)

1334. Its hard to disagree with why they changed this matter due to the people causing the problem. Its very unfortunate for people such as myself to have to deal with this because of the drug users but they know who these people are and they arent takimg othersl measures to change it besides our mail. Officers in charge just witness inmates getting high and move them to another cell for someone else to deal with the issue and potentially get them in trouble. We are the ones living here and its extremely hard for people who are trying to do their time, stay out of trouble and rehabilitate themselves. This mail change unfortunately isnt going to keep the drugs out. These people, in my opinion need a more serious punishment or things will never change. Its unfair that these peoole continue to get more dayroom privelage, get jobs and other oppurtunities over others who stay out of trouble. So hopefully it will help but i think more measures need to be taken for these users and people selling because its even happening in our relgious services (11/5/2025)

1335. It's highly not needed. 90% of the prisoners are being punished for what the 10% is doing. A letter or picture on a tablet could never replace the connection of a real in person letter from your loved ones. I fell this is another way for the facility to control us and make our time difficult.
(11/5/2025)

1336. its horrible (11/5/2025)

1337. It's just wrong... (11/5/2025)

1338. It's not going to do any good to stop the paper mail from coming into the institutions. That's not going to stop the drugs from coming in. There is always going to be an employee looking to make some extra money. Some of the employees are bigger criminals than the people who are locked up. They just haven't been caught. (11/5/2025)

1339. Its not going to stop drugs from getting in (11/5/2025)

1340. Its not gonna change anything when your cos are still bringing in contraband. All your

doing is slowing down people communicating with their loved ones (11/5/2025)

1341. Its more safe.it would allow a stronger relationship.we would need to understand each other... (11/5/2025)

1342. Its not right its a legal right to receive mail we are being treated like animales because of other peoples choices (11/5/2025)

1343. I think, that the current mail procedures regarding the postal corrections distribution, is a clean and efficient path to a secure, more responsable interaction of government and inmate. (11/5/2025)

1344. I think. we should get our mail that is sent to us instead of being scaned. (11/5/2025)

1345. I thought it was going to be awful but it turned out to be ok. Im still waiting for some copies of photos but being patient. Im sure ill get them some day. (11/5/2025)

1346. I totaly support the department of corrections on this because drugs have no place here. We are here because we didnt follow the law so it proper for this. (11/5/2025)

1347. I whole heartedly agree with not being able to physically receive mail from our friends, family and loved ones. I as well as other incqrcerated individuals are sick and tired and fed up with having to be exposed to the poluted chemically charged air from these stupid drug addicts that are smoking the stuff. They have no regard for anyone elses health. Hopefully this will put a stop to the drugs coming into the facilities.
However, I have great concern about the new way the legal correspondance from attorneys has been changed. I almost missed a court appointed dead line that a judge set on me. I was given 21 days to respond to a Summary Judgement motion the lawyers filed for the defendants in a civil law suit I filed with the courts. The defendants attorney sent the documents to me on September 30 of 2025 and I was not given the documents until October 8 of 2025. Thid delay was due to the new rule that all privileged mail must first be verified with the firm and/or attorney on the return address. That only gave me 13 days in which to research and reply. During that time I also had to send documents and the writtenresponse to the institutions Law Library to have photo copied and E-Filed with the court. This 8 day delay in receiving our legal privileged correspondance is going to push court dead lines to almost impossible chances of making them. Something else needs to be put in place to inspect the privileged mail. You are putting us individuals in custody at sevre risk of mssing mandated court deadlines. Please rethink this aspect of the new process. (11/5/2025)

1348. I would love to go back to reading my own mail. What ever the problem is with the mail has nothing to do with the rest of the world. Please allow me to get my own mail again thank you (11/5/2025)

1349. I would prefer paper mail. I am old school, and old modern individual who still writes papered letters to my family and friends. I think on my voice it would be better to keep it paper mail and don't change it. (11/5/2025)

1350. I would prefer to be able to get physical mail from my friends and family like letters and photos and books (11/5/2025)

1351. I would rather get the paper copies but same time i understand why u all are putting mail on tablets over all i do not blame u fr fr (11/5/2025)

1352. I would like to say as long as the system stays up and running i dont see any problems with the setup of digital mail (11/5/2025)

1353. I want my mail delivered to me personally and not posted on this tablet format (11/5/2025)

1354. I vincent russell M-11415 feel like its the right thing to do. (11/5/2025)

1355. Its ok dose not effect me and if it to keep drugs out i aggree only problem i see is with photos but it seems like if outside apps are used its no problem a phyiscal photo is way more centamental and if put on tablet the photos should not be deleted (11/5/2025)

1356. Its ok with me (11/5/2025)

1357. Its ok
(11/5/2025)

1358. Its okay for me (11/5/2025)

1359. Its okay to me im just here till i go home (11/5/2025)

1360. Its stupid (11/5/2025)

1361. Its stupid (11/5/2025)

1362. Its terrible (11/5/2025)

1363. Keep it coming through the same way you guyz already have it closely Monitored without too many distractions (11/5/2025)

1364. Keep it like it is...,.dont change it,to the point its on the tablet (11/5/2025)

1365. Keep the drugs out of the prisons please. (11/5/2025)

1366. Keep up the good work. I am looking foward to a drug free Correctional Facility. (11/5/2025)

1367. Leae the mail alone. Some peoole have emotional attachment to there mail. Just leave it alone. (11/5/2025)

1368. Leave it to mail be delieve to the person not on the tablet in person (11/5/2025)

1369. Just make it back normal we are the pople :-) (11/5/2025)

1370. Me no likey. (11/5/2025)

1371. Me no likey. (11/5/2025)

1372. Me parece una excelente idea que el correo sea por medio de la tableta y asi combatir y prevenir el flujo de drogas dentro de las prisiones. (11/5/2025)

1373. Much of this policy depends upon claims that contraband items such as drugs, weapons, and drug paraphenalia are coming into the institutions through the mail. While examples were given, such as magazines soaked or sprayed with drugs or books used to smuggle weapons etc. the proposed changes specifically state no documentation or reports have been included to support these claims. While contraband is and always has been a concern in IDOC, the need for the radical changes proposed seem to simply push responsibility off of the mailroom and security at further cost to the state.
I am 100% behind ridding IDOC of its smuggling problems, but those problems are too often overlooked in the housing units where the majority of individuals in custody who do not use are constantly exposed to "k2" or other substances by those choosing to smoke it. If efforts on the ground were truly being enforced, and individuals who were found to be using were provided with long term treatment instead of a few days segregation, perhaps we wouldn't need outside sources doing the job traditionally assigned to Department staff. (11/5/2025)

1374. MY NAME IS ANTHONY LEE MILLER JR #Y27644 THIS NEW POSTAL MAIL APP ON THIS TABLET IS GREAT. KEEP THE GREAT WORK UP. (11/5/2025)

1375. New mail system suck (11/5/2025)

1376. No coments at all it is all good. (11/5/2025)

1377. No entiendo muy bien pero al parecer hay un cambio positivo en el codigo 525, b,y c . en el estado de illinois registrado en el volumen 49,y, 41 los cambios son en 20,111si es algo bueno yo quiero aprobechar gracias por la noticia (11/5/2025)

1378. No i dont like it so dont do at (11/5/2025)

1379. No if it's going to save peoples lives that's a wonderful thing (11/5/2025)

1380. No problem with change
(11/5/2025)

1381. Mail is federal and should not be mest with puting it on the tablets. That's rong.
(11/5/2025)

1382. Mail should be left alone. Its a form of rehabilitation from our love ones (11/5/2025)

1383. Mail should stay the same. (11/5/2025)

1384. It's ok (11/5/2025)

1385. Let be for real aint nobody usein no drone to send no druds in. Can yall please be real about the whole thing stop puttin shit off on us and our famliy thats so fuckin sad.yall need to like in the mirror (11/5/2025)

1386. Lets be for now it nobody useing no drone to send in no drugs or sending books in with weapons. Why do yall always got to make the promblem about our famliys and friends.why its never the officers at fault. Yall the most crook it. (11/5/2025)

1387. Lets not put any blame on the officers who accept money to bring in the phones,drugs,etc... (11/5/2025)

1388. Making the population view their mail and pics off of the tablet causes alot of issues. If a person wants to have a hard copy of their pictures the Adm (11/5/2025)

1389. No reason to put our mail on the tablet countie to give us our pictures in hand (11/5/2025)

1390. Not fair (11/5/2025)

1391. Not good (11/5/2025)

1392. Not good causes alot of complications. (11/5/2025)

1393. Not good for ppl (11/5/2025)

1394. Now its hard for are love ones to write us that very disrespectful toward indivduals in custody (11/5/2025)

1395. Perfect mailing process way to go. (11/5/2025)

1396. Please do whatever reasonable means are needed to lessen the amount of drugs coming into the prison setting. (11/5/2025)

1397. Please keep paper mail, a series of bad offenders are ruining mail for us all. (11/5/2025)

1398. Really doesn't affect me in any type of way. (11/5/2025)

1399. Really no comment. I see no advantage nor disavantage (11/5/2025)

1400. Really stupid idea (11/5/2025)

1401. So Are You All Saying That Soon Our Mail Should Be Place On The Tablets Soon, If So Then That Alright You See We Must Revolve If We Aspect Change In IDOC, Next It Should Be Pictures & Video Visits Being Place On The Tablet. We Are Behind In Time Its Time To Catch Up With Society. (11/5/2025)

1402. It's safe. (11/5/2025)

1403. In response to the MailScan Proposal I would like to say that I feel as though a great deal of the controversy surrounding the issues pertaining to the reasons for thiis proposal are in large part (11/5/2025)

1404. Its the wrong way to handle it. For us the ones that dont do the stupid shit . We are being punished for somthing we dont have any control over . I still have to sit hear and breath the second hand smoke . I have already felt the health aafects from it my lungs hurt im short on breath my skin is always irritateded. The reson i say your wrong is i cant get my pictures knowing i may never see my faimly again. I am in bad health as it is and you are going the wrong way to combat it send you a mole on the inside it is easy to find out who how and where. You cant be that damm dumb. You pay people to watch us but all they do is watch these dumb asses do the stupid shit. God Bless you all. I hope you can get it right . Because you are doing it all wrong. WWJD Amen PW (11/5/2025)

1405. Its unfair. Why punish all prisoners for some bad actors? The code 3 still continues daily. Thats fact. If u were in my shoes u would want real mail ... Thats it in a nutshell. Hopefully it goes back to normal. Thank u.
(11/5/2025)

1406. I've already started receiving scanned mail and I think it's a great step forward in bringing the inmate experience into present day technology. Now we need the tablets to improve the music library so we have a database of selections as robust and diverse as what GTL offered. Fix that and you'll have A Lot of happy people in IDOC. (11/5/2025)

1407. I've read the mail Act the illinois general assembly established. Our mail is only temporarily suspended until january 2026. The legislature will have to pass a bill to make our mail permanently electronic (11/5/2025)

1408. Let's look at the facts here. You turned our mail into digital mail to fully stop the contraband from coming in and yet it still flies through here not by individuals in custody but by the people who work in the school building cause the way it's talked about through the grapevine is that the teachers are involved. Cause it seems to dry up till Tuesday then on Tuesday when it comes for individuals go back to school then it the contaband takes over again. Strange to say. This is the only prison I've been in that I've heard various others not knowing who they are just passing three house lines on call passes or coming from chapel and or programs. I think its wise to do digital mail especially for the Correctional Officers and for the people who don't partake on that crap. (11/5/2025)

1409. Look, i know that paper that these clowns are smoking is bad. You fixed one of the problems, but not the others. Your scanners for visits dont see paper so everyone of them should be strip searched. Last thing is the legal mail. I have watched the guys selling that crap, pick up legal mail. So im saying that when a person picks up legal mail, this should happen. Have ready a coping machine and a shreder. Copy the legal mail in front of the person and shred the ones that came in. This will stop all the fake places from sending it through the legal process. I get alot of legal mail and i would be ok with this process. And if the problem is still happing, then you have a bad officer. Good luck (11/5/2025)

1410. The mail on the tablets are a good idea. As long as picture from places like free print are still handed out. Other than that hopefully it will slow the drugs down. (11/5/2025)

1411. The mail not coming in is bullshit. Its still paper drugs in the prisons while our mail and pictures and being digitally copied for the protection of the prison. This is just another form to cause confusion and breed hopelessness with in the prison population to kick off some getting hurt really bad due to stripping any form of hope we may have for change. I am to the point where I dont want mail from my family anymore.I dont want to feel at all. Because I dont know how to anymore do the actions of IDOC And the treatment. (11/5/2025)

1412. The mail now that its being electronically done we should get our mail in a timely fashion.. (11/5/2025)

1413. The mail changes have had lil to no effect on drugs entering the prison (11/5/2025)

1414. The mail changes is highly unfair. Our friends and family take the time out their day to send us pictures letters and cards. Storing them in a tablet is pointless because after a certain time frame the storage is full and i have to start deleting stuff. I understand this method is suppose to stop drugs and other harmful stuff from coming in but you can only catch so much. (11/5/2025)

1415. the mail changes really dont effect me one way or the other (11/5/2025)

1416. The mail changes SUCKS! The mail system we currently have is just fine. (11/5/2025)

1417. The mail didnt give me my birthday card on my tablet because it had marker written on the card now i understand why but if its been place on my tablet why i cant recive it? This is not right! Because i got a yellow slip asking me to send the card back to the sender wow!! (11/5/2025)

1418. The mail has been slow and inconsistant (11/5/2025)

1419. The mail has sentimental value that people use to cope so by adding it to the tablet it removes that value plus you only can have it for so long before its deleted thats just not right. (11/5/2025)

1420. The mail is a direct link to friends and family which provides a source of peace of mind in a time sarounded by constant chaos a confussion and uncertinty.. This new mail copying

policy does little to nothing to stop what ever contraband they claim is being sent in and is not directly tailored to stop just that.. It causes undue stress as ive been asking for copies of my mail both personal and legal for weeks with out production as well as ive written to the courts asking for forms and documents which i need to fill out and return to the courts but the very documents sent bybthe clerk are not turned over but posted to the tablet which prevents them from being filled out and returned with out undue delay in waiting weeks for the mail room to provied clerk sent documents (11/5/2025)

1421. The mail is a joke they do not fucking scan in mail or get it (11/5/2025)

1422. The mail is already being scanned through a machine.
For the purposes of detections of drugs & or contraband.
So why go technical.computers are not all they're made
Out to be. They actually are making the people in this world LAZY.& STUPID. I need my Veterans Mail sent to
Me in the form it comes to this facility in. PAPER. For only my EYES to SEE. Not this unprofessional prison staff.I would like my FEDERAL(Department of VETERANS AFFAIRS) mail to be Considered(LEGAL) or
Priviliged Mail.P.L.E.A.S.E. thank you. (11/5/2025)

1423. The mail is extremely slow now, they take forever to scan it or do whatever it is they are doing. Please find a way tk make it faster (11/5/2025)

1424. The mail is moving too slow now , ive been waiting 1 month for my pictures from "nia robinson" and they never sent her the pictures back. (11/5/2025)

1425. The mail is not fair also things that are coming through the mailroom that are allowed is still takin a long time this is not fair to us at all (11/5/2025)

1426. The idoc has not addressed the real elephant in the room which is the lack of staffing,unchecked power when it comes to restoring the individual in custody to useful citizenship. The us against them mentality this department in it's totality promotes alao due to it's unchecked power. Everything is already a delay because of poor communications from those in power. Nothing in my 24 plus yrs in this system has been proactive,only reactionary,and we are the ones suffering from said behavior. You don't care about us!!! When have you all put forth and effort and ask us what do we think we could do to help make this situation better,we live here not you. Unfortunately,some of us have matured and we want change as well,and without our help it cannot happend. Fear cannot be the work of reason anymore,togetherness and a committed sacrifice for a better tomorrow shall be the objective here...when ur ready to listen I'm here with the rest of us Darren Henderson R40280 hill c.c. (11/5/2025)

1427. The glaring problem with the decision to scan mail rather than deliver it to recipients, is stated in section 6. "Any published studies or reports, along with the sources of underlying data that were used when composing this ruling - No."
So with no concrete evidence to support the step â€” only the IDOC assertion that drugs are being sent via mail (while data from studies that were apparently not consulted overwhelming

demonstrate drugs are brought in via staff) â€" our physical mail is confiscated and provided only in digital form. In every previous state where DOC has enacted this step (and there is evidence to demonstrate this), friends and loved ones on the outside become disillutioned and disappointed that physical mail does not reach recipients and gradually cease sending mail/letters, which in turn leads to decrease in morale of those in custody. Meanwhile, no demonstrable decline in drugs entering facilities is seen.
There is plenty of evidence to support all of this, and yet none was consulted or heeded. Why not? (11/5/2025)

1428. The idea of solving a problem with contraband coming in the mail is fine, but the logistics were clearly not worked out ahead of time. The result is that we are just not getting mail, cutting us off from our support system and even from the people that we make efforts to support morally through their lives. This is not healthy at all. (11/5/2025)

1429. The electronic mail system is not fair. I'm being punished when I don't bring drugs into the facility or have my family and friends send drugs into the facility. My I love you cards family and friends send have to be on a tablet, my pictues of loved ones. That is not right. My family pays for those pictures at walgreens or walmart and send them to me just to have IDOC put them on the tablet digitally and then erase them after six months. So where are the original photos going to go? In the garbage? My family pays money for those cards, pictures and stamped envelopes to mail to me. IDOC needs to take a closer look at their staff because that's how things are getting into the facility. (11/5/2025)

1430. The electroinc mail handling is outrageous espcially when it come to legal mail there is no way to properly acess your mail if you dont have a tablet or your tablet breaks and you have to pay 110$ for a new one without a 110$ then how do you receive mail if i need legal mail that is electronically copy and the wifi is down then i have no access and i have mail that i need printed out that i have no way of receiving an the mail i need is legal for any filings that i may need to do with out a lawyer but with the copies that i onced used and will continue to need for legal use (11/5/2025)

1431. The effect that i have felt from the change is it taking a very long time to get Publications (11/5/2025)

1432. The electeonic mail system is a good thing to use to help keep out the drugs and i am all for it. However on another note, i wanted to exspress to you the importants of mandatory work release programs for all inmate the are doing wellamd stayimg out of trouble during the incarceration, to be able to earn an income and save money isvery much nessasary for reentry back into the community. It gives us the ability to build a work ethic as well as help us pay our own way as we become employed and give back by doing well and make a living amends to our communities. Illinois department of corrections please look at states such as Montana and the D.O.C. how they use the treament and after care stratagies involving pre release (work release for reintrigations.thank you. (11/5/2025)

1433. The department is in violation of federal law, the department is giving personal info and personal mail, photos to a 3rd party without due process or consent of anyone and without any

notification, the department is giving information to a 3rd party without consent allowing the 3rd party to whatever the 3rd party wants to do, in violation of federal law. If there is no proof of someone sending things like contraband or alleged drugs into the prison then their mail should not be interred with. If someone has been cough bringing contraband in through the mail like alleged drugs then they should receive a disciplinary ticket and due process (required per the 14th amendment to the U.S. constitution) and have there mail scans for a period of time as a sanction, otherwise to scan everyone in the departments mail is in violation of inmates due process rights, Furthermore, there is not a drug problem coming in through the mail, staff are not getting "contaminated" because if staff were getting "contaminated" from handling the mail, there would also be U.S. postal staff would have also been contaminated, but this has not happened, there is no grounds or proof of any of the departments allegations. This is only opening he door for federal lawsuits for several federal and u.s. constitutional violations, which will cost the state money! When western il, corr. Scan our mail we request copies but never get them and get no notification of mail being received. And incomplete scans. This is a joke and there is no reason for this, when it is staff who have been bringing drugs into the prison and staff who have been caught bringing in drugs, such as the maintenance staff at western Illinois correctional center about one and a half years ago, the staff simply refuse to do their job, you can do drugs right in front of staff and they do nothing! Even if font of security cameras and the staff still do nothing, if someone is doing drugs in there cell and staff see i they don't do anything this is a staff created issue, and not even an issue there is not many (hardly any) drugs in prison. (11/5/2025)

1434. The department did not do any thing wrong some inmates brouht it on them self but othet people are getting messed up by it if you put the dope heads in one place that will bring and slow end to it hopeful then a gaian hows it gettin it daville still some one working with the dope heads or pushers too just put an stop it .dont hold me up put all the smokers in one house and then you will see whats what in danville .thay bust them and put them right back on the same wing to do the same thing over an ovet again thay can stop it if thaycwanted too (11/5/2025)

1435. The decision made by the Department to stop "individuals in custody" from receiving personal mail from family and friends due to the allege incoming "Paper Drug Substance", the banket decision to cut off all incoming mail to prisoners categorically conflicts with the IDOC, "Individuals in Custody" to which each prisoner is suppose to be addressed is all for NOT!! given the Deparment's mail delievary decision that in directly falsely accuses myself and my family and friends of Drug Trafficing and Mail Fraud because of the actions of a few, and the Department's willfulness to ignore the long history of IDOC Staff trafficing illegal substance into the prison facilities but not being considerred as the main source. But like I said "We!!" are no longer Individual in Custody because when one or a few is punished we must all accept our "Punishment", (11/5/2025)

1436. The answer is simple and cost effective. There are organizations that send free books to prisoners. Put these organizations under contract stating that they shall only send appropriate material in good or new condition. That any reading material deemed suspicious will be scanned, with that specific piece of material to be then sent to a testing cite if and only if, without reasonable doubt that the alleged material poses a serious threat. Discoloration due to the age of the book, and regular wear and tear are not to be considered reasoning enough. For individuals

receiving mail such as holiday cards and letters are to be made available electronically as well as physically, unless the individual has been flagged for receiving confirmed and accurately tested contraband, physical mail should be allowed. A limit can be imposed, for example, one physical greeting card, one physical hand written letter, and 10 physical photos shall be allowed every month. A possible exception to holidays such as in November and December allowing double the quantity for the items listed prior. As mentioned, anyone flagged of receiving confirmed contraband will be placed on a 90 day physical mail ban, with the exception to legal mail. A 180 day ban on any consecutive flags to the individual. And a 365 day ban on physical mail to anyone flagged for receiving confirmed contraband for multiple times within one year. Again, with the exception to legal mail. Legal mail is to be delivered by approved lawyers, state, and any official legal party that is currently associated with an individual. Providing tablets is a great solution, but it shouldnt be the only one. A childs drawing and handwriting provides a sentimental value that can not be compared to seeing it physically. Similar to hand written letters and photos. A reward and punishment system in place can help when done right, as well as a limit to physical mail to not overload the mail room and make the idea for tablets sensible as well. Book organizations can again, be under contract and be held liable for any confirmed, and again without reasonable dout that reading material contains contraband. Organizations such as MidWest Books To Prisoners and Liberation Library are extremely well in following procedures and the rules placed by institutions regarding physical mail. I can go into depth if any questions arise. (11/5/2025)

1437. Taking mail and making come on this tablet is not right that is something that should betalk about more way do every one in jail habe to oay for somwthing that has nothing to do wuth them smoking is nit something every one does so way do everyone have to lose out on getting they mail ir they picters its just not right not letting me.get my picters is not.right my mom is 71 years old and dont know how to work all them apps out there not that let u send picters.. (11/5/2025)

1438. Taking the mail from individuals in custody is not only unlawful, it is also abusive and reactionary, where the vast majority if the contraband is not coming through the mail where there is oversight not only from the prison but also the postal service. Much more drugs are being introduced to these institutions because of staff, and IDOC knows it.This so called protective measure will only serve to further oppress the vast majority of IDOC's population who do not use drugs, follow the rules and very much need the connection that comes from a handwritten letter from a mom, or wife, or even child. Historically DOC has chosen to take, take ,take instead of being proactive in the approach to substance abuse treatment and prevention. Don't take our mail give "us" treatment, address the root causes of addiction, send us back into our communities healed and soberninstead of furtjer entrenching an attitude of antagonism and opposition. Please find a way to nridge the gap of protecting everyone and "rehabilitating" individuals in your care. Every person that leaves this department and recidivates is a failure on this department. If you truly mean what you say in your mission statement, then start to behave in ways that will cause your captive population to buy in to change. But this must stary at the top and be encouraged within the rank and file. Thank you for your time and consideration. (11/5/2025)

1439. Tampering with State Mail is a Federal offense that carries 10 years imprisonment and a $50,000 fine (11/5/2025)

1440. STILL I THINK ITS COOL. I DONT SEE A BIG DIFFERENCE BESIDES WHAT WAS DONE OR IMPLAMENTED. ALL IN ALL I FEEL YOU DOING WHAT YOU SUPPOSE TO DO. IT ALSO SAVES LIVES AND PREVENT PEOPLE FROM SMOKING FENTYNAL OR PCP OR WHATEVER ELSE THEY PUTTING ON THAT STUFF AND CALLING IT K2. I THINK ITS WELL OVER DUE. CONGRATS. (11/5/2025)

1441. Still under review. Would like to find out more about the changes and what i can do. (11/5/2025)

1442. Stop opening and holding important legal mail from civil suit an stealing it as well (11/5/2025)

1443. Take the Regular Mail and Books from US is violation of first amendment Rights Scanned Mail Don't Work I request Copy of my Scanned Mail and after 1 month I no got Nothing is More Delay and Pictures on Paper No is the Same Feeling Rigth Know in the facility I Personally see people smoking and High and Prohibition of Original Mail Dont Stop the Problem (11/5/2025)

1444. Takeing the mail away is wrong and its not fair i disagree whit mail on talbet this should be a civil law sue
(11/5/2025)

1445. SO IF YOUR GOING TO PUT OUR MAIL ON THE TABLETS YOU SHOULD PUT THE DATE ITS GOING TO START AND NOT HAVE INMATES LOOK LIKE FOOLS WAITING. (11/5/2025)

1446. Me personally I don't think everybody should be penalized lack of staff, nor should I be penalized by the negative acts of others. Nothing should change because it was a vert slow process when it was being given to us regularly and it will be even worse once the staff has to program it on inmates tablets. (11/5/2025)

1447. Mail should not have to be scanned because with or without the mail being scanned there are still drugs comming in the facilities. Officers bring them in people get them through visits and there is no data about drugs coming in through the mail. The scanner for the mail keeps breaking in logan correctional institution an i havent gotten mail in over two months that i know is in this facility. This facility doesnt have what they need to make the copy of pictures cards letters for us and after 6 months our mail is gone. Its not fair. I understand this is prison but we as individuals in custody are still human beings. Stop stripping people who have to be here for a life sentence everything they have to look forward to. Yes people make mistakes and some peoples families were stripped of a loved one and thats why were here. But like i said peopl make mistakes you live and learn from them. stop the none sense!! (11/5/2025)

1448. Memo for mail was sent but ive got pictures that are black and white and not in color. This is implemented to stop drug laced papers but here at Danville CC we dont have any cameras or body cameras to stop C/O from not bringing anything into the facility. There are

many thing in place to stop drugs from coming in except looking within nor having cameras implemented for everyone safety. We need better C/O because they are careless and need to be checked for allowing the drugs being moved through the facility. (11/5/2025)

1449. My comment is this, yes we have issues with mail and drugs being smuggled and I also agree that some form of action needs to be taken but as an idividual in custody I do not have my family send in drugs or contraband. However I feel there should be some kind of scan that can detect drugs and once you find them and link them to the parties involved then disiplinary action should be taken. But to take physical mail from everyone just isn't right. And also in this notice you forgot to mention one thing.. It is Correctional officers that are bringing in drugs, tobacco, cell phones, etc.....so how are you going to handle that? You have male and women officers who ask for sexual favors or monetary gain for things like drugs and tobacco (11/5/2025)

1450. My comment regarding the changes surrounding the mailing system is that while I myself HATE the flow of intoxicants that exist within the penal system, stopping incoming mail was Not the correct way to mitigate the issue at hand as it unfairly punishes those individuals in custody who do not engage in intoxicants or the bringing it into the penal system. It also hasn't stopped, nor will it stop the flow of intoxicants into the system. There were other available unexhausted remedies that would have made a greater impact on the issue that the system is and has been facing. I, along with other non drug users have to now suffer greater delays in receiving mail, denial of receiving mail from children and parents that hold sentimental value that cannot be substituted by any other means, etc. (11/5/2025)

1451. My comments of the new rules regarding mail are quite simple, it can help stop the drugs from entering these facilities as being in a prison where drugs are the main reason for fights, stealing, seizures, and even disobeying direct orders. However, it does hurt the few of us who don't do drugs and simply like having home-sent books come in and to hold a piece of paper knowing your loved one wrote on that exact piece of paper. I have been incarcerated since 16 years old and being soon 20, I collected a marvelous book collection that I sent home from juvenile so my transfer didn't discard those books. Due to the new mail rule, I will never see those books that I loved & read multiple times for a very long time, and that is outright upsetting. I hope this new mail rule actually does enough damage to these drug dealers and makes our prison more secure, more safe, and more soulful.
(11/5/2025)

1452. My family and i feel this is a pointless effort to combat an issue in which we all know the majority of the contraband is not coming in through the mall. It is such a small amount that has been attempted to be sent through the U.S. mail. The majority of it is most likley comming in through staff. Other states that have went to digital mail have shown that not only has there been an increase in overdoses but the amount of contraband as well which gose to show the mail is not the problem. Even so what small amount of contraband that may be trying to be sent in has obviously been cought because you know about it which is the mailroom and property sole perpouse. You speak of how important it is thet we (FAMILY) stay conected yet you wish to take one of the biggest and most meaningful ways to be connected with loved ones away. A physical connection. This is also a financial burdon on familiys as well. You are only allowing for the mail to stay on the tablet for only six months. So every six months my family must resend

photos that cost them money to print and mail. For you to turn around and through them in the garbadge rather than mail them back home. When instead we should be able to use free prints Amazon, ect. Many of use will never go home to be with loved ones and one day they will no longer be with us. All we will have left because of this pointless law is a printed copy of there letters or photos. I have been locked up now for nineteen years this will be the nineteenth christmas in IDOC. In my property I have eighteen Christmas cards from the one person who has stood by me my whole life. And every year with out fail always sends my a card for the Holiydays and Birthdays. But this year there will be no card to hold or display to bring any kind of Holiyday chear in an already depressing place Because lets face it. whats the point? I cant hold, and a copy isn't the same so whats the point . Asides you will just through it away with all the others loved ones cards, hopes and wishes for us in six months anyway. So consider this when you go to pass this into law and how much this is a punishment for me but also my family which my family are law abiding citizens and should not have to pay for others. Well Happy Holidays for some I suppose. (11/5/2025)

1453. my name lendell truitt ID number B63935 i just want to thank yall for what yall doing to stop these drug from coming in i use to be on drugs out there when i was on the streets but i be telling guys that you know what you putting in your body they cant tell me one thing or whats its doing to there body these young guys dieing off something they dont know what it isbut thank god yall doing something about it peace/blessing (11/5/2025)

1454. Mail being made electronic will make zero improvements to removing drugs from the institution, and individuals have already had issues receiving other individuals mail on their tablet and not having the option to send back refused mail seems unfair to family and friends who want pictutes back (11/5/2025)

1455. No matter what k2 coming in through the mail is gonna continue to be a problem no matter what precautions you take. It is an epidemic in a sense because in the prisons that have 4 houses there is about 100 inmates on each wing and over 50 people on each wing smoke K2 that's a really bad problem for the administration of the Illinois drpartment of corrections! Tjere is at least over 10-20 episodes ""Someone having a drug over dose"" a day. (11/5/2025)

1456. Not bad. (11/5/2025)

1457. Not good ideal nobody i know never recieved since im still missing pictures that been here since sept 16 2025 i think it was the most horriable change for logan correctional center they always say they hav nobody in the mail room so when will they have time to scan our mail dont really make since it was a good change for us. (11/5/2025)

1458. Not much to complain about (11/5/2025)

1459. O.k see with me, i am happy that the drugs will stop coming into these institutions because stopping this stuff from coming in is saving peoples lives for real... God bless you all (11/5/2025)

1460. Ok hey I understand I would say I understand more then you guys do and thats because I

have to be around all the goofys that smoke that dumb shit but hey listen you guys think just buy putting all the mail on the tablet is going to stop it hahaha that makes you guys just as goofy as the dumb asses that smoke that shit and if u are wondering why i say that is because now its coming in because the CO'S are bringing it in and also you putting the mail on the tablet and makeing so that our people cant send books all that is doing is punishing the people that dont smoke like myself because its still going to come in and ur not stopping anything what u need to do is stop the mail only for the people that have anything to do with smokeing tickets in there background or anyone that has fallen out because they smoked that shit and also when ur co's come into work u need to search them better then what u are because if u stop there mail that will make them have to go so long before they can start getting mail back and if u search ur co's better i gearente that u will find most of the shit coming in if not shut it down all togather (11/5/2025)

1461. On the above date i hear by too say (IDOC) yall doing a good job.the reason why is cause like with the phone situation yall given ppl with (NO) family,support team a opportunity too reach those who they love.so keep up the good work yall.my other comment is about the tablet i love the idea yall put it together for everyone.people can get the opportunity too get back in court ect,they can pick up on they education where they left off at.so like i said thank you,keep up comin with so more stuff ok? (11/5/2025)

1462. Once again something is applied to the majority because minority is not being kept controlled/corrected due to failure of IDOC to protect all OUR/IIC's rights because its staff is just not trained/trustworthy and lacks integrity... (11/5/2025)

1463. Opening our Mail is not legal at all we have a right to getting paper mail and it not getting open. I would like to see a change.ms.pritzkner or democrats it is not going to work for you in the future for votes letting things like this happen. (11/5/2025)

1464. Pardon my skepticism but I dont believe this was done out of concern for my safety. (11/5/2025)

1465. Proposed mail change is not helpful due to 6 months expiration of letters , pictures also some family friends of incarcerated individuals don't have access to phone services. (11/5/2025)

1466. Putting the safety of the officers and inmates first is priorty. I think the mail change is key to the saftey of the prison as a whole. (11/5/2025)

1467. Our right to recieve mail has been stolen by c.o.s faking drug overdoses and going to hospital. Only clothes were submitted for testing (not blood) which came back negative. The same corrupt staff are bringing in contraband. Since mail has ceased, the dayroom is still filled with smoke and inmates are still overdosing. Proofs in the pudding right?Mail should be screened for drugs and forwarded to us. (11/5/2025)

1468. Reasonably so mail was being compromised due to the existence of "substances on paper",the need to eliminate the mail was necessary to an extent. However,there was no clear understanding of how our mail was gonna maintain its integrity. (11/5/2025)

1469. Whatever (11/5/2025)

1470. Yes (11/5/2025)

1471. Yes (11/5/2025)

1472. Im really dont give a fuck im just ready for idoc to approve the new laws regarding good time for 85% fuck the mail. (11/5/2025)

1473. I.d.k (11/5/2025)

1474. Idk what any of this mean lol I abide by the rules and regulations (11/5/2025)

1475. I truly understand (11/5/2025)

1476. I wonder how the changes with the mail and publications will help and will it be reliable and how long it will last (11/5/2025)

1477. N/A (11/5/2025)

1478. N/A (11/5/2025)

1479. No (11/5/2025)

1480. No (11/5/2025)

1481. No (11/5/2025)

1482. No comment (11/5/2025)

1483. No comment (11/5/2025)

1484. No comment! (11/5/2025)

1485. No comment. (11/5/2025)

1486. No comment.. We can't change it anyway.. (11/5/2025)

1487. No comments (11/5/2025)

1488. No deal (11/5/2025)

1489. Non (11/5/2025)

1490. None (11/5/2025)

1491. None (11/5/2025)

1492. None (11/5/2025)

1493. None (11/5/2025)

1494. Ok (11/5/2025)

1495. Ok (11/5/2025)

1496. Ok (11/5/2025)

1497. Ok (11/5/2025)

1498. Ok (11/5/2025)

1499. Ok thanks for letting me state my opinion (11/5/2025)

1500. Okay (11/5/2025)

1501. Okay then. (11/5/2025)

1502. Okay then. (11/5/2025)

1503. lets go. (11/5/2025)

1504. I would hate yall even more if yall do some shi like that thats goofy asl @*@*@ (11/5/2025)

1505. When are we going to get are mail. (11/6/2025)

1506. Will we be able to still get books from differnet book clubs who offfer used books to offenders (11/6/2025)

1507. Will we still be able to order books from barnes & noble and also receive pictures thru freeprint & pelipost??? (11/6/2025)

1508. When ask to have own pictures copy for us, Why the copies not in color (11/6/2025)

1509. When the amendment says we are allowed to receive publications directly from the "publisher" it is not specific enough about who exactly a "publisher" is. Who exactly gets to determine what "publishers" are approved to send someone books or magazines? Can a random church, or other religious organization send someone books, or are "Barnes and Nobles" and "Amazon" approved publishers? If you dont make it more clear about who exactly an "approved" publisher is this is going to create all types of financial problems because individuals and their

families will be purchasing publications, only to be told by facility staff that some certain publishers are not acceptable under that particular facilities standards. This does not make any sense at all to do. We should be allowed to purchase from ANY publisher. This whole process is a joke and a waste of I.D.O.C. and taxpayer money. Drugs are still continuing to come in through the legal mail. You guys are only screwing over the individuals in custody who dont get drugs sent in through the mail by doing this, while the dope dealers are laughing at your attempts to stop them, and finding more creative ways to get drugs sent in anyway. It is as easy as going to an attorney or publisher with drug-laced legal papers or books, and paying them a fee to mail it into the facility. The attorney or the book store has no way to know if you put drugs on the book or the legal papers, so they have no knowledge of what you are doing. They just know that you are paying them a fee to provide a service, so this new mail process is not stopping anything. People in here knew you guys were going to do this years ago, and already had plans to get around it. They implemented this same system in federal prisons a decade ago and it did not change anything. It was a waste of time and money. Just know that this only made things harder for the guys that actually follow the rules and dont get drugs mailed in. Put that in your amendment. (11/6/2025)

1510. Will we have way of keeping downliaded mail (11/6/2025)

1511. Why is i I.D.O.C playing with my LEGAL MAIL (11/6/2025)

1512. Will we still be able to get magazines from the company if its lgbtq+ or the channel guide. Now how is it if your family sent you the magazines instead. (11/6/2025)

1513. When and how will i get my mail (11/6/2025)

1514. Will we still recieve the original pictures after the are scanned. (11/6/2025)

1515. Why should our mail be printed out on the tablet? And why cant we just get all our mail. (11/6/2025)

1516. When photos are scanned why not just leave them on the tablet? (11/6/2025)

1517. Will we still be able to recieve photos sent from freeprints and them not have to be scanned to the tablet (11/6/2025)

1518. Will i stil get my books (11/6/2025)

1519. Will pictures from (free prints) or (peli post) be consider publishers? (11/6/2025)

1520. Where is my pictures i have been waiting (11/6/2025)

1521. Where is my pics and mail at is it being sent back after scaned or put in my property for when i get out this is rong and aginst fed laws (11/6/2025)

1522. When we get pictures how do we get them do they send them to our cell or is it going to

be sent to us on our tablet (11/6/2025)

1523. When we get letters and pictures they are printed on high quality paper so we can really read the letters and see the pictures, now they might be on some lazy cheap stuff and we incarcerated individuals will get the worse. (11/6/2025)

1524. Where is our picture going to be stored the ones that dont come through (FREEPRINT) COMPANY,
BECAUSE I DONT WANT NOBODY TO DESTROY MY PICTURE AFTER (6)MONTHS (11/6/2025)

1525. Why aren't we getting mail from the investment company. (11/6/2025)

1526. Why does my mail from my bank have to be scanned on the tablet? Its quite personal,Also ,would courses from correspondence schools be able to come through the mail w/o being scanned? (11/6/2025)

1527. Why is mail to a clerk of a court of law not considered "legal mail?" Such mail invariably is legal filings and notices. In fact, mail to and from such a clerk is more in the nature of "legal" mail than most other mail the policies consider. If mail to and from such a clerk is not "legal" despite them almost always, if not always, being documents filed with a court of law or documents produced by a court of law, then why are such documents collectively referred to as "legal documents?" I suggest mail to and from a clerk of a court of law be considered the legal mail that it is. (11/6/2025)

1528. Will all mail be scanned?even magazine's
What about legal mail (11/6/2025)

1529. Will i recieve my certificates that i sent off for from Black Stone and CMTECH HVAC or will they be photo copied and sent to my tablet since they are coming from a educational institute and was earned from the Edovo (11/6/2025)

1530. Why cant we have hardback books if their sent from a legit company.When their already in my cell and in the library for us to read? (11/6/2025)

1531. What im trying to figure out is if a family member sends me a document and i need that for court since im my own attorney. And need that so called document how will i be able to get it if idoc puts it on my tablet but wont give me a paoer copy all mail sent in should be copied on a sheet of paper and given to me or you should stop this new rule cause to put it on the tablet does me no good if i need it for court its not like i can take my tablet into court idoc says its going on tablets it saying nothing about giving me a paper copy at all. Or make it where i can pay for a copy at my cost cause putting it on the tablet wont work for me. If i need it for court. Idoc tells us nothing to after the 6- months what happens to my mail can i send it back home to a love one or friend?????? Cuase idoc makes no mention to this to me at all. Why is this. You have no right to just throw it away with out giving me an option to send it home!!!! (11/6/2025)

1532. What happens to any mail after being scaned like photos and certificates? Do they return to sender or can we have em recent some place after being scaned for free or do we have to pay? Then i also do a lot of corresponding courses through mail. They send real certificates when my couses are completed. (11/6/2025)

1533. WHAT HAPPENS TO THE MAIL ONCE YOU MAKE A.COPY?
(11/6/2025)

1534. What if some one tbalet is brokn or does not have one or there changer is broken to many what ifs just to make all the mail on devices (11/6/2025)

1535. What does the state does with the original
mai after they put it on the tablets
They can not destroy it .we should be allow to send the mail back home.once they throw it away that is mail tampering.now we are talking about federal issues i court.
Plus i had some certificates sent to me what do they do.put them on this tablet.what good does that do me to show my achievments.what i suppose to do take this tablet to let those see what i achieved by a tablet.I need my certificates i hand.But i get it I.D.O.C could care less about what we feel is right.That is the director latoya hughes fault.she dies not care about what is right for us. (11/6/2025)

1536. What do we do when we have legal papers sent from our familly such as motion , petition we need these pappers in papper form and not on our tablets. These pappers have been type for us by our family & we have to get them notorize & mail from prison to court house
(11/6/2025)

1537. What can we do about recieving letters, cards, and pictures from our loved ones that may hold a sentimental value? If we can only have them on our tablets for 6 months or just get a PHOTOCOPY of it, then those precious pieces will be lost forever or have no value at all. I have a elderly mother and other relatives that communicate with me and I cherish every thing that I get from them because before I am released they may be dead. My mom in particular. And I would love to have her Bible, which would not be coming from a vendor. (11/6/2025)

1538. What are you going to do with the mail after the 60 days? Why do we get lock out of are tablet after 5 hr? (11/6/2025)

1539. What are you going to do with the original mail? What if the sender wants the original mail, pictures, ect.? (11/6/2025)

1540. What about return mail could our mail be at least return to sender or provide and address slip and or a physical copy (11/6/2025)

1541. What about getting a copy of the letter how do you go about doing that you tell us you are going to do it but you have not told us hot to get a paper copy of the letter (11/6/2025)

1542. What about if you have little kids that want to send you art work? (11/6/2025)

1543. What about my familes Obituary? How would you guys give me that ? (11/6/2025)

1544. What about getting a copy of the letter how do you go about doing that you tell us you are going to do it but you have not told us hot to get a paper copy of the letter (11/6/2025)

1545. What about if you have little kids that want to send you art work? (11/6/2025)

1546. What about my familes Obituary? How would you guys give me that ? (11/6/2025)

1547. Well one thing is. As you know, a lot of us individuals in custody use pen-pal services. When we use these services we have to mail in an application of our profils, and the photos we want used on our profils. The penpal service after processing our applications will send us proof that our profils have been uploaded, and they will return to us our photos. Under this new system we can nolonger get our photos back because they are even scanning mail that we sent out. I mail out some mail and it came back 'return to sender,' and they scanned that. Now yall clam that this is to cut down on drug trafficing within the facility. Well, I have never been a part of that in the first place number one, two the mail incoming from a penpal service is coming directly from that company and I believe that amil sould fall under thae same as publications coming in from their company. And mail that I myself mail out like a letter that gets returned that I clearly sent out should come back to me (I damn sure am not sending drugs to myself), and if I mail out a picture to be copied or used on a penpal service that photo should be returned to me. The profil also but if not the profil, at least the picture I mail out. Further, we want physical picture of our families and of ourselves so as to be able to send them to others for things like what I mentioned above. Or we may meet someone and want to send them a photo of us. I personal rarely get mail and when I do its either from a penpal services provider asking me to renew, legal from Springfield, or institutional. It is sad that yall still make policies that hurt the many because of the few. (11/6/2025)

1548. What is maen role for grevments (11/6/2025)

1549. This not going to be good so we cant have our picture no more? (11/6/2025)

1550. WHAT HAPPENS TO THE MAIL ONCE YOU MAKE A.COPY?
(11/6/2025)

1551. What are you going to do with the mail after the 60 days? Why do we get lock out of are tablet after 5 hr? (11/6/2025)

1552. What are you going to do with the original mail? What if the sender wants the original mail, pictures, ect.? (11/6/2025)

1553. What do we do when we have legal papers sent from our familly such as motion , petition we need these pappers in papper form and not on our tablets. These pappers have been type for us by our family & we have to get them notorize & mail from prison to court house
(11/6/2025)

1554. We need direct rules on where we can buy used Magic cards and have them sent in from. Can any card dealer do it or are there specific companies we need to order from. (11/6/2025)

1555. While I understand the need for this proposal, I also hope this is a work in progress. The timeframe for receiving mail to the digital "Postal Mail" board can be improved. It took over two weeks to recieve and scan the mail. In addition, individuals in custody should retain these documents indefinetely on our tablets. There should also be a better option for high quality photo prints provided by the facility as that is what our loved ones paid for, for many to receive. As I also love digital organization - it would also be beneficial if IDOC and the facility would adopt or instutute the "Photo and Video Messaging" app on tablets to allow more digital and positive communication methods with loved ones, something different than just postal mail. This would also allow higher quality photos to be sent which Individuals in Custody can keep within their "Gallery" upon download and might alleviate some requests to print. It will be greatly beneficial and appreciated to allow a different, positive form of communications with family. Other apps and more "premium" content (such as PlutoTV, Netflix, Spotify, YouTube subscriptions to purchase with possible restrictions or other premium content which acts as an incentive but Individuals could purchase) would also be greatly appreciated to pass time and spend more money which might mean more revenue for IDOC. Thanks for your consideration and thought to semi-increase living means and ideas for many Individuals in Custody who want to be positive and make changes. (11/6/2025)

1556. While I understand the need for this proposal, I also hope this is a work in progress. The timeframe for receiving mail to the digital "Postal Mail" board can be improved. It took over two weeks to recieve and scan the mail. In addition, individuals in custody should retain these documents indefinetely on our tablets. There should also be a better option for high quality photo prints provided by the facility as that is what our loved ones paid for, for many to receive. As I also love digital organization - it would also be beneficial if IDOC and the facility would adopt or instutute the "Photo and Video Messaging" app on tablets to allow more digital and positive communication methods with loved ones, something different than just postal mail. This would also allow higher quality photos to be sent which Individuals in Custody can keep within their "Gallery" upon download and might alleviate some requests to print. It will be greatly beneficial and appreciated to allow a different, positive form of communications with family. Other apps and more "premium" content (such as PlutoTV, Netflix, Spotify, YouTube subscriptions to purchase with possible restrictions or other premium content which acts as an incentive but Individuals could purchase) would also be greatly appreciated to pass time and spend more money which might mean more revenue for IDOC. Thanks for your consideration and thought to semi-increase living means and ideas for many Individuals in Custody who want to be positive and make changes. (11/6/2025)

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and make changes. (11/6/2025)

1560. When it comes to individuals in custody photo's that are sent from family and friends,i think that individuals in custody should be able to have them,for the simple facts of memorable purposes,the person or persons in the photo may have past away,the individual in custody may have alot of time left to do on his,or her sentence.Just like you all are doing with the publication books you can do with the photos,as long as they are printed and sent by the company that printed them,then the individual in custody should be able to have them. (11/6/2025)

1561. When it was just the mail room opening our mail checking it and then sending it to us. It would take weeks to get our stuff. Now how long is it taking to open, scan it on computer and then get it to us via our tablet? Some guys tablets dont even work and getting a new one is harder than getting a pardon from the president. I see the reason behind it and agree something needs done in those regards however, the dope is still getting in so id say this is really a waste of time and money. Look for different options. (11/6/2025)

1562. While I can understand that safety for both employees and individuals in custody is a priority, my mail is a priority. Perhaps that IDOC should begin withholding mail from individuals that they are aware that utilize contraband. Everyone should not have to pay the price for others mistakes. (11/6/2025)

1563. Why, if the Department claims to have the tech to scan, screen, fluoro-whatever, is the Department going through all of these expensive nonsensical proceedures to "protect" Residents and/or staff --- when there are simpler solutions.
STAFF:
1. Search each staff member/employee/officer that walks into the prison.
2. Don't allow ANY containers or even transparent/clear bags, purses, etc.
3. Don't allow ANY peronal effects, belongings, etc. (Exceptions for feminine products, inhalers, and the like, but NO open medications or other similar personal needs.)
4. Meals are provided in the dining hall, and staff commissary. NO personal food.
NO deliveries of food. NO catering. (Refer to #2 above.)
MAIL:
1. Have some discernment, and consistency in mail handling.
Personal story: I once received two cards at Christmas, two days apart. The first, from my Granny, was flagged for having glitter on it. I paid to have it photocopied in black and white (which I received AFTER Christmas). The second card, from an aunt, was received, and to my suprise was so full of glitter that I had it in the oddest places days later. My issue is the inconsistencies. What is the standard?
2. Hardcover books. Allowed? If so, great. Many tomes are only hardcover.
3. Photos from family? One day someone will get a few in the mail, another day they are scanned. What is the standard?
4. Legal Mail. Some men (not Individuals in Custody) have Legal Mail scanned, when others don't. Standard?
5. Cigarette smoke smell. Um, a large population of Americans still smoke tobacco. Most people can distinguish it from any other substance. Have some discernment. My Granny smoked like a chimney, but her mail was denied because of cigarette smoke smell. She was a old lady.

Experienced staff would have made a better judgement call on a issue like that.
CONCLUSION --- Residents and outside folks may be a contributing factor to foolish means of contraband introductions into prisons, and I'm certain that staff are well respected and trustworthy, but not all Residents are criminals, nor are all staff impervious to coersion or incorruptible.(11/6/2025)

1564. You also have to let Prison staff, such as Correctional Officers,ect....understand that there will be severe penalties for bringing the sprayed paper(Drugs) inside to persons in custody. Because believe it or not Officers and staff have been known to do so. Also harsher punishment for persons in custody that are caught with any drugs. Other than that I really like the propose ammendments. Im all in with solving this terrible epidemic, im also tired of smelling smoke on a daily basis on my tier. So yes do what you have to do to solve the issue. (11/6/2025)

1565. We want to have normal heterosexual penetration magazines approved, since the homosexuals get to have bras, panties, makeup, and the ability to have their boyfriends celled with them to have homosexual relations. It is only fair to be able to see a woman have sex with a man in a magazie, since I am subjected to constant homosexual activity. (11/6/2025)

1566. We use to be able to ordervarious greeting cards from companies to send home. Commissaty does not provide greeting cards. If they do you dont have options for specific or all occassions grief, graduation etc. Also wr cannot buy good supportive bras. Our family was able to go online an order us bras and now we cannot receive those either.
Why hasnt anyone considered the number of correctional officers that have been caught with contraband an caught criminal charges like Sgt. Turner from Logan correctional? (11/6/2025)

1567. Well it would make sence if the mail was on the tablit but it be super easyto just have it to whare we can e mail back and foirth would be so much easier and cheeper for families like mine who struggle with money durring these hard times (11/6/2025)

1568. We need some free movies
(11/6/2025)

1569. We need to allow new card games to be sent in. Also, we need digital books available for purchase (11/6/2025)

1570. We need direct rules on where we can buy used Magic cards and have them sent in from. Can any card dealer do it or are there specific companies we need to order from. (11/6/2025)

1571. We need a way to see our trust fund balance at all times and to get notifications when we spend money, get money or if for some reason money got tooken without our knowledge.
I think our trust fund account should be added to the tablet. (11/6/2025)

1572. We need a way to print our mail and pictures. Many people, myself included, like to keep mail from their loved ones because it holds sentimental value to them. Right now we are unable to print mail off of our tablets. When i am released from prison i will not be able to take any mail that has been scanned onto my tablet. This is a violation of both the U.S. and Illinois

Constitutions 1st Amendment. IDOC does NOT have the right to throw away an inmate's property arbitrarily, and that is basically what IDOC will be doing to the mail that has been scanned onto the tablets. IDOC and ICSolutions should work together to create a means of printing mail, pictures, and emails -IF GTL CAN OFFER THAT OPTION WHY NOT ICSOLUTIONS? (11/6/2025)

1573. We live in the age of digitalized content, the illinois department of corrections should allow individuals in custody to order online subcriptions on publications of magazines, and free streaming that is offerred for free, free basketball games "live" football games, baseball games, free movies, instead of waisting money that can go for more educational and rehabilatational programs,to allow individuals in custody a true chance to get out of prison without reoffending being put back in prison. The approve streaming services like youtube, roku,offers all kinds of adult/family friendly programs more programs than over priced cable television.nobody even uses cable anymore. everyone in the community is streaming, from new to old movies and television show favorites.not costing IDOC anything!!! All can be added to our tablets. And if individuals wish to purchase subsription for streaming programs like Hulu,and Disney-plus to watch all kind of marvel comics based tv shows,and starwars tv shows and stand-alone series. We should be allowed to spend our hard earned money on such programs for our tablets. instead of being overcharged for movies on our tablet that we can watch for free on our television,most of the world is digital now and individuals in custody have no experience on the new age technology.and the radio on our tablets dont offer many stations due to interferrence from IDOC walkie-talkies,so we cant listen. To chicago cubs or chicago bulls or chicago blackhawks games which you can stream for free on youtube! And WNBA games also, blacks and latinos do not get many culture like programs outside the city,in these country parts offers only country music,no variety of blues,rap,raggae-ton,z so such programs should be given to indivduals in custody costing IDOC not a single penny! Thank you, for your time. (11/6/2025)

1574. When the clerk of the court send a package clearly marked as legal mail the mailroom is opening up the mail and scanning it and putting on tablet. The problem is these are important documents and exhibits we need physically to present to the court. By scanning these important documents and not sending them physically when a pro se litigent can make him miss a deadline. Something has to be done about that. (11/6/2025)

1575. While the Department of Corrections in the State of Illinois has decided to make significant changes to the procedures regarding the processing and reviewing of institutional mail, I could not think of a better time to raise the issue of inmates not being allowed to receive certain publications that depict adults engaged in erotic activity. The mail system in IDOC has been abused for years to unlawfully introduce harmful substances into the prison population which has resulted in an unprecedented threat to the safety and security of these facilities. Yet the magazines intended for adult entertainment that pose no threat to inmates or staff have been banned from IDOC and are not allowed through the mail system. I believe there is no better time than now to overturn this ban and again allow inmates in IDOC to receive these publications once again as they are harmless and are no more than an expression of freedom and beauty. Thank you. (11/6/2025)

1576. Why are they opening our legal and privledge mail. Before they give it to me and other

people. When they do they dont let me/us sign for it . (11/6/2025)

1577. Why are we not able to get magazines sexual in nature sent in anymore? We are adult men with alot of pinned up agression and emotions. And those magazines help subdue those emotions. Right now you have people in here who do very inappropriate things to female officers and health care workers. Ive asked a couple of them why they do it and they said they took my magazines away. I have nothing else to look at. As far as stopping mail from coming in here im all for it. You have to stop the flow of illegal substances somehow. Ive been told alot of it comes in through the legal mail because you cant open that and screen it properly. (11/6/2025)

1578. Why do we have to get our mail through the tablet i find it unfair because i have som legal paper coming in and i dont want to get it through the tablet
(11/6/2025)

1579. Why do we have to go through putting the mail on tablet if we didnt do anyting wrong now we not even getting our mail on time (11/6/2025)

1580. Why does it take so long for the things to get on the tablet i understand the reason for the paper to tablet change it us just such a inconvience (11/6/2025)

1581. Why is it that if this is just A proposal than why is it that the Hill C.C is already carrying out this so-called proposal. We are right now getting our mail on the tablet and our pictures on the tablet too which is something that I dont agree with. How is yall gonna hold our photos on this device for six months then take them off?! What happens when or if we lose one or thise family members on those photos and we cannot get their likeness again?! These are the thing that yall not taking into consideration. Everybody out there in the world dont know how to use all the apps that send photos,magazines etc,etc. In closing again,Hill C.C has already stopped giving us our incoming mail when this Law or proposal has not even been passed,these issues needs to be address immediately. If this law is to be passed than its supposed to be passed in / on Jan 1st 2026, not Sept 30,2025!!! Even the so-called uneducated knows that,Thank You. (11/6/2025)

1582. Yeah i was recently in seg and i had a letter sent that was photcopied and sent to my cell in seg. But when i recieved the letter the only thing that you can make out was the envelope. The letter literally looked like 3 blank pieces of paper. Yoy would think that the mail room or whoever is responsible would of seen that you couldnt even read nothing on the letter and made it to where we could see it. Instead they just sent it to me the way it was. And to this day i still have no idea what that letter even said. Its not on my tablet so im not sure. (11/6/2025)

1583. Yess i dont like it for the fact that if my family writes me a letter i would want the real copy same with pictures
(11/6/2025)

1584. Yall trying to make it harder for us to Recieve mail from the outside seems like the only Real Reason For wanting to Stop Mail & Publications. Because if yall really cared about people Dying or "O'd'ing" Why dont we get the Proper medical Care? Why do it take 2+ Weeks To get to Sick Call? Anything that give us a peace of mind yall want to take Away From us. the

problem is Idoc, Yall Create Problems From Nothing to make our life more Miserable & Thats Evil, Think about if yall was in our Shoes, Currently we cant get Nude pictures from our Women, but we can get Nude Pictures From Magazines. what Sense do some of yall Rules have? Its like yall Create Dumb ass Rules that have no Valid Reason or meaning at all, I Vote Who ever come out with these rules out of office all Alone. Have a Blessed Day! (11/6/2025)

1585. Yall did it and put the wrong mail on people tablets. Giving out personal information is dangerous in here and as long as the pictures come from the company it shouldnt be a problem for us to get our pictures. (11/6/2025)

1586. Why do we get punished as a hole for a couple peoples actions if someone messes up there mail priveliges then they should be held accountable for there mistakes on there own on top of that yall say that we are able to request our mail to be printed out but they never print it out and the mail that gets uploaded is time sensetive so why are we not able to print our mail out when we request it by the time you answer back the 6 months are up and our mail is gone so how do we get our mail printed out? (11/6/2025)

1587. You cant have any highlighter of any books because one will get the whole set denied My cellie says that it was hand gestures but she didnt send him any hand gestures and sent the whole set back to her ripped up (11/6/2025)

1588. While the survey is uderstandable I do not see in depth literature to make any comments. While the fouding fathers collectively wrote the humans right to correspond, the state and or new administration is restricting this right. Restrictions are good and bad for the fact that one may develope loop holes. Exactly that is occuring in our modern society. Further, because there are only a few cases of bad apple per se, restricting my right to electronic mail rather than physical mail is absurd and ridiculous. This is the same as putting certain restrictions on my religion or representatives putting their own spin on what I can preach. Some may see it too over-reaching but is that true? (11/6/2025)

1589. With new age tech. Comes with bad actors in goverment who use it. Thus the process is very slow by staff. And you cant win on and arguement when lies are being told to the american people. And brings Justified rage. Where unequel treatment is greatly exercised and staff facilitate in hate crime. And use a inmated to inmate cover up. Tablet works but I rather have my mp4 player where I spend less money. And certificate erned applys for violent people who are incarcerated. (11/6/2025)

1590. What is going on with our mail (rather, lack thereof) is terrible. I used to receive mail several times a week. Since the scanning ruke has been implemented I have received ONE scanned item, dated Aug 30, and received it on October 8th. This is the case for all of my housemates as well as across Grounds here at Logan. It is cruel, unfair and also seems illegal that our mail is being withheld. I was told by our house counselor on Oct 31 that there are 16 PALLETS of unscanned mail, just sitting in the mailroom. (11/6/2025)

1591. Well ive been waiting for a housing application for about 2 weeks from a lady at home who mailed it in to me and this is going on three weeks so you tell me how its going. Every since

they started this scan mail i havent gotten nothing pertaining to mail at all. (11/6/2025)

1592. Well one thing is. As you know, a lot of us individuals in custody use pen-pal services. When we use these services we have to mail in an application of our profils, and the photos we want used on our profils. The penpal service after processing our applications will send us proof that our profils have been uploaded, and they will return to us our photos. Under this new system we can nolonger get our photos back because they are even scanning mail that we sent out. I mail out some mail and it came back 'return to sender,' and they scanned that. Now yall clam that this is to cut down on drug trafficing within the facility. Well, I have never been a part of that in the first place number one, two the mail incoming from a penpal service is coming directly from that company and I believe that amil sould fall under thae same as publications coming in from their company. And mail that I myself mail out like a letter that gets returned that I clearly sent out should come back to me (I damn sure am not sending drugs to myself), and if I mail out a picture to be copied or used on a penpal service that photo should be returned to me. The profil also but if not the profil, at least the picture I mail out. Further, we want physical picture of our families and of ourselves so as to be able to send them to others for things like what I mentioned above. Or we may meet someone and want to send them a photo of us. I personal rarely get mail and when I do its either from a penpal services provider asking me to renew, legal from Springfield, or institutional. It is sad that yall still make policies that hurt the many because of the few. (11/6/2025)

1593. Well i dont really have a problem wih the mail bein uploaded to the tablets.my only issue is this if you say we cant receive mail unless its from a company.so theres other photo companies that send photos directly from there company.these companies include snapfish & shutterfly,as well as peli post but most of us use freeprints. (11/6/2025)

1594. Well being honest...my family pay for pictures shipping and to be enclosed for me not to recieve pictures or mail and keep them in case restrictive housing occurs which falls under cruel and unusual punishment and mental health.our sentence is not punishable for us not to recieve mail.. (11/6/2025)

1595. We who are in prison look forward to are loved ones sending us a letter, a picture, and/or a book. We don't have much in property but we do have letters from someone we might have lost while being in prison and its the last thing we have received from them. The same thing about pictures. We don't see are family on a regular bases and miss out on a lot of them growing up. Yeah we might get a copy of that letter but it takes away something that lets you really connect with that momento. Or the quality might not be the greatest. Thats even if you get it from them. They are having difficulties of getting it out to you. (11/6/2025)

1596. Well we should be able to get are pictures we had are love ones sent to us but kbowing u guys really DONT CARE ABOUT US so if u can let us have are maill i dont CARE ABOUT YOUR DRUGS on papper not every one dose it! I lost my brother in out of DCFS and i have my sister sent me pics neve have i got em but she also sent them to MENARD CORR CTR wher i was touch harrasment c.os made me suck there dick but seen i wasnt the person who would say some i was scared but i would love if u can help me HEAL HELP ME get my pictures all im saying! Let us get free creidts like GTL tablets as well (11/6/2025)

1597. Well they took my 5 magazines away every time my parents come and see me on a visit every single Monday cuz these people wanna smoke that dumb shit and did it slow anything down, hell no and oh yeah I cant have my physical mail and recieve it in a timely manner but I get to look at it on my tablet and did that stop them from smoking that dumbass bug spray on paper, no, so yeah great job. (11/6/2025)

1598. Yo quiero una copia para tenerla con migi
Para poder ablar con mi famolia de lo que
Me mandan (11/6/2025)

1599. Well where do i begin with the bad and leave out the good...maybe we should just have free emails and we should have an option for a real card to come and brighten up the room...but the risks of dangerous substances is understandable but canbe handled differently so i guess it just is what it is... (11/6/2025)

1600. Well i agree with every change of oir mail for the public safety of others that dont condone in doing drugs and are rehabilitating; thing i dislike and disagree with is our loved ones pictures being destroyed wether, its the original copies and/or of our tablets(these shouldn't be erased of our tablets, until we go home). Then, the original pictures should be mailed back to our families and loved ones, because they may hold and be of very significant value. Also, after they are scanned and uploaded to our tablets they should automatically make a copy of every single picture and be handed a physical copy of every single picture, we shouldn't have to request copies or have our pictures destroyed when our loved ones spent their hard earned money on purchasing them and to send them to us. (11/6/2025)

1601. Well first off this is fucked up that we all half to suffer for the works of others stopping are mail is bogus cause alot of us people dont have tablets and look forward to mail so they can show there kids the letters they got from them like my kids are bbys so they draw for me and ask me all the time daddy do u still have my pic what am i to say no they put it in the trash what the fuck (11/6/2025)

1602. Well being honest...my family pay for pictures shipping and to be enclosed for me not to recieve pictures or mail and keep them in case restrictive housing occurs which falls under cruel and unusual punishment and mental health.our sentence is not punishable for us not to recieve mail.. (11/6/2025)

1603. We should have the choice to pick between both tablet and paper mail (11/6/2025)

1604. We should get regular mail its unamericannot to get our personal letters to save em. (11/6/2025)

1605. We should still be allowed to receive magazines and pictures from family members, if the individual in custody has never done anything involving the illegal acts of smuggling in contraband. Some people dont have the means to send magazines and pictures through outside companies. I believe that there should be better rules set forth for this matter at hand, instead of

faulting every individual by stopping postage from family, there should be some type of test that can detect any chemical that is not orginally a part of any document or magazine,and or postage from our family members. (11/6/2025)

1606. We should be able to get our mail itourright yes we are subject to consequences fpr things we do thouvh (11/6/2025)

1607. We should be able to get our pictures no matter if they come from a compeny of our familys. They should also make sure that the whole letter get scand not just some of the letter. Also our mail should stay on our tablet for more than 6 month. We like to go back and read letters from our familys years later. (11/6/2025)

1608. We should be able to keep our photos.The photos get deleted after six months . (11/6/2025)

1609. We should be able to keep photos on tablets longer than six months and/or get them printed off on photo paper evenif we have to pay for them. (11/6/2025)

1610. We should be able to receive our photos in our hands,especially if they came from a company. (11/6/2025)

1611. We should be able to recieve our mail regularly like it use to be and only red flag those who abuse it, like if you catch a 203 Charge for being high you mail come to your tablet. (11/6/2025)

1612. We should be allowed our pictures to come to us and put the paper mail on the tablet. (11/6/2025)

1613. We should be allowed to have cards holiday, birthday special days cards from our family (11/6/2025)

1614. We should get our mail just as it sent to us. I beleive all this drugs that is suppose to be in the mail is a big lie. Cause the mailroom workers would have been afected along with the guards. But non of the mailroom workers has been affected by the mail and they are the ones who handle every peice of mail. (11/6/2025)

1615. We should be able to get are letters from the churches that we get are lessons from and mail letters were they dont have to be on the tablet. (11/6/2025)

1616. We need to be able to send the original copy of cards, documents, and pictures home when it comes to things that get scannes to our tablet. We also need actual approves and banned list available and perodically updated at our library. not just ask the librarian to look it up for some privacy. Also some lenacy in what gets banned from approved vendors when it comes to Magic The Gathering cards, Pathfinder table top role-playing game, and Dungeons and Dragons table top role-playing game. For example: Allowing single magic cards from approved vendors, allowing playmats for pathfinder, allowing multiple character sheets to be shipped in at the same

time (multiple copies) and grid paper books (multiple copies). These come from approved vendors and pose no threat to the security of the prison or other prisoners. We use these things to pass our time and take our minds off negative things that the prison is struggling to combat currently. Also art supply access would be a nice addition as well. In IRCC we dont have a way to buy any supplies. Also hardcover books from approved vendors need to be reinstated. That rule took so many opitions away from us because some companies only print there books in hardcover. Or allow approved vendors that will remove the hard cover for us to do such thing so we can recieve them and not be flagged as altered. Thank you for recieving my comments and any considerations. (11/6/2025)

1617. We need to know what happens to our mail and photos once they are downloaded to our tablets. Not enough info was given to us, not to mention it is a major inconvenance for us. Why cant our family send attachments directly to our tablet like with the message system? That would make everything move faster and more efficent. A program can be downloaded to monitor what is being sent. (11/6/2025)

1618. We need are mail (11/6/2025)

1619. We should not be punished for the wrong doing of others. Personal mail is a great way to stay in touch with our family and love ones. I remember when we used to get drawings from our kids,cards from our family, and pictures sent in from our friends and family. Now it cost extra to send pictures and cards get sent back. The whole process is messed up now and a way to profit off prisoners and their family. Mail is not the only way contraband is comming into the facilities and it been proven the when the mail is scanned contrand actually increases. (11/6/2025)

1620. We Need Mail. 1st Amendment Of The Constitituional Rights. (11/6/2025)

1621. We need our mail to touchbour hands (11/6/2025)

1622. We need our pysical mail back, electronic photocopys on tablet and pysically slide it under the the door! Like it should be, something tangeable.
(11/6/2025)

1623. We need our regular mail (11/6/2025)

1624. This really sucks and makes it extremely inconvenient. I am trying to print out the copies and they still havent done it a month later. And some of the scans got cut off or are missing things. Also, most of the drugs are coming in thru staff, not paper mail. So it is pointless. (11/6/2025)

1625. This new way of mail has several flaws. I understand that there is an issue of drugs in prison, but if you believe that it is coming in from primarily from the mail room, then this is a complete waste of time. The 1st issue to talk about is how are we to know if our mail is not being thrown away instead of being processed. Sure, we get our newspapers, and magazines from the publishers, but our other mail is what is in question. The c/o's laugh now and say, "mail sure was done quick today". I know for a fact i have not recieved mail that was mailed over 3 weeks ago

from the post office where she is the post mistress, mailed it herself. Of all the issues @ IDOC, this is what they tackle? (11/6/2025)

1626. This new mail sysyem isnt good for nothing because we cant recieve our pictures we cant view our pictures if theres no wi fi taking the pictuers and legal mail isnt good becuz it take the humaine feeling of recieving tangable pictures of our family legal material we really need to study our legal affairs our family sending greeting cards that are always something that puts a smile on our face ,, they gave us and opportunity to supposably get a copy but they dont they never respond to our copy request our family pictures are then destroyed our original mail lost and destroyed (11/6/2025)

1627. This new mail system takes to long and I cant have my letters. I got a birthday sent September 17th, it wasnt put on my tablet till Oct.30. I have been locked up a long time in that time I have lost my mother and my sister the only thing I have left of them is the few letters that I have been able to save. I understand that the drugs are a problem and I dont have the answers but,taking the only thing we have of our loved ones isnt the answer. (11/6/2025)

1628. THIS IS ILLEAGAL (11/6/2025)

1629. They shouldnt do mail scan because theres is sentimental value from a letter pics and etc from your loved ones . They should also give us free messages on tablet . Like they use to with GTL e-mails and also allow our loved one to send message credits so we be able to respond with out having to wait long days for comisary slips.Also is lot of incarcerated individuals eho dont have tablet and will never get to see they mail because they cant log into they tablet cus they do not have one. Publications should be allowed . Also XXXRated magazines should be allowed i believe it will decrease the sexual need from most men in here. We all sexual beings . Theres none wrong with one using magazines to please they sexual needs. It will decrease sexual misconducts(107s) and anything of its nature as long is done while in cell behind privacy. They should also allow our families to send in comisary from vendors such as care packages and comissary and hygiene from trusted or verified vendors. (11/6/2025)

1630. They still need to let us get our Pictures of our loved ones through picture companies as free prints. (11/6/2025)

1631. They taking pictures i use to be able yo get i think its bs (11/6/2025)

1632. Things you failed to address therein is PICTURES! We should be allowed to receive our pictures in their orginal unscanned state AS LONG AS they come direct from a company like Freeprints, pelipost, etc. Ive written a grievance on this an they have agreed so this should be clearly stated in rules change. Look at grievance K55-1025-3110 for this here at Big Muddy. Also mail from the clerk of the courts lije circuit clerks CANNOT BE SCANNED there is court deadlines appeals etc in those envelopes an scanning them, writing on them, etc means some appellate courts wont accept them because they are 'altered' Ive grieved here at Big Muddy K55-1025-3111 & they agreed an returned my Mail from the Clerk of the Court. Clerk of any Court SHOULD BE LISTED IN THESE CHANGES AS PRIVILEGED MAIL. (11/6/2025)

1633. These changes to the mail will be a very critical situation because as an inmate we anticipate our mail and to have IDOC staff invade our privacy and personal conversations in writing will be a violation of law. The violation said to be is one of federal crime by either playing with ones mail or invading the privacy of an intimate letter from a loved one. This is insane and I dont want anyone looking through my mail and seeing what my kids,my wife, my family and others srnd to me,so no, I do not like this process. (11/6/2025)

1634. You're bogus for not allowing inmates the intimit feeling of receiving hand held mail that can bring them a feeling of happiness from the fell of a letter or card from a loved one. Something that is alot more personal then reading or looking at something on a tablet. If you feel that some people are taking advantage of the mail then signal them out and do your job. Don't punish everybody because of afew bad seeds. (11/6/2025)

1635. While I can understand the rationale behind this proposed rule change, as an individual in custody who has lost each and every one of his grandparents while incarcerated, my question to you is this; How can you replace the sentimental value a personal letter from a loved one who has passed on brings? Also, Id like to be able to hold physical copies of pictures of loved ones, so another question I have is, will individuals in custody be allowed to receive pictures from companies such as "Freeprints" or "Pelipost" (both companies make sending pictures to incarcerated individuals a simpler task for loved ones thereby helping to maintain relationships with the outside world)? (11/6/2025)

1636. Why do one apple have to continue to spoil it for the whole bunch? I came in the world and jail alone and im going to pass and leave jail alone so why does people i dont even see or talk to affect me? I want my physical picture, my son in school i wnt to have his artwork or grades in my cell but i cant even get it because of somebody else actions. Its crazy to me because regardless the situation of the mail things are still going to happen. Its also people in here for life with no outdate you think they care? They need something to take them away because idoc not helping making it easier for them regardless. Im young with bad back pain you think ive seen a doctor or even got the situation handled? No! Its so much medical situation in this facility alone and now i cant even get mail from family of any stature this is a catastrophy. How about idoc focus on the immates mentally and physically before they try and make things more complicated maybe they will have people who want to tell to stop the problem (11/6/2025)

1637. Why does everyone have to suffer because someone else have overdose off drugs? My opinion is, i would like for mail to remaine the same far as (pictures & letters) because i like taping my love ones mail and pictures on my wall in my cell and not looking at my stuff on my tablet devise... (11/6/2025)

1638. Why not leave the mail the way it is I loved for my loved ones to write me letters or to send me christmas cards & that a tradition in my family & the pictures on the tablet isnt right either I want to hold my pictures I want to enjoy the love of my pictures & I thinks its some other way for you all to give us our mail because deleting it isnt right (11/6/2025)

1639. Why would any one choose to delete my pictures of my love ones after 6 months my pictures should be in my possession not yours after 6 months i cant see my love ones thats a slap

in the face we deserve the same respect we still humans thank you (11/6/2025)

1640. Yes I get it about the mail, but the pictures from love one's and family members only holding on for months then never have that last picture of them is very hard for me. A man that's doing life in prison.. No I don't blam
anybody for my faults, but can't you all come up with a better way when it comes to pictures of family members??? Why not put them on paper for men like me to die with... (11/6/2025)

1641. What is the cause of this?! And its nothen like haveing the touch of knowing a family member who wrote u something, i dont agree (11/6/2025)

1642. Well I know this World is going to Tech-Computer Age, but it should still be the choice of the person, to go to Tech, and maybe should look at what the person is in Prison for, like me, I've never did any drugs or smoke anything in my life and I'm 58 going on 59 in December this year and never made a phone call to anyone in the past year and two an half months, plus I've served 22 years in the Military and served overseas in Iraq in 2010. The way this tablet is about running videos or keep shuting down and to read theses letters, I'm old school guy that would love to feel the letter in my hand, kinda like in my Navy days of sending mail from ship to home and back forth, was quicker then this system through the government Prison system. We are still HUMAN BEINGS and should be treated better than rats and have the right to choice - Tech/hand held mail ! Thank for at least reading my response and GOD BLESS and have a Great Day . (11/6/2025)

1643. To whom it concerns,first let me start by saying irregardless to the proposed reasons-mail in its touchable/holdable form is one of the only thing besides our dignity(what is left of it) is the only thing we as tried an condemned had to be treasured as part of our love ones. You have literally killed what is left of the human psychic! Shame on you!!!! (11/6/2025)

1644. To the issuwe regarding mail beinon the tablet. I think that this shouldnt happen at all. Our love ones letter card and picture are special and help people thoughtout there incarceration. Then the other issue is that the facility on allow you to keep pictures, letters, an obituartys stored for 6 months on your tablet before they automaitcally delete them . thia shoudlnt happen. And its only happening for the sole reason of stopping K-2. Its b.s (11/6/2025)

1645. To be honest the new mail system is really disapointing because you are punishing the majorty of people who did nothin wrong and ruined the personal and meaninfulness of getting letters and cards by acanning them, it honestly isnt the same feeling when that was one of the things i truly looked forward to being able to open and read the actual letters... Cause it didnt/hasnt stopped or even slowed down the people that are bringing in the drugs anyways (11/6/2025)

1646. To be honest my family pictures bring good vibes and happiness , its something positive and keeps attitudes and the enviroment calm and full of joy....the reason im saying this its cause I belive and its something i would like and very humble ask for the deparment of corrections to re-evaluate their desicion on not getting our original pictures....that like our visits its a verry important part of our rehabilitation and positive behavior..im not arguing any other desicion

made , but The desicion of not letting individuals in custody recieve their original family pictures and just that...I humbely ask if it could be reconsidered ..thank you for your time and consideration on this matter ...I know there could be something done to ensure the safety of the correctional institution and for us to just at least get our family pictures Thank you (11/6/2025)

1647. This thing with mail on the tablets can couse mental health problems for some because the like having that jand writen letter from there family.this also violayes our first amendment right.the mail being put on the tablet never passed as a bill in ether the house or sennet case pocunier v martinez or nasir v morgan 305 F,3d at 369. N,3 376 when people get mail they can hold and read on paper from therr familys makes a person feel better.the mail thing is all becaus IDOC dont wan to spend the time or money to get a gyminey so they can see whats on paper most things will even show up under a black light thos stuff is not only comeing in in the mail but officers also when your in prison you see things like officers with tabaco on grounds or other things but when an inmate says something staff cover it up or ship them out .you mail and pics on the tablets are a bad idea since they have staryed talking about this i have seen people get realy upset because then hand written letters mean alot to them and taking them just is not right yrs staff safety is a thing but it the mail staff had a way to test for drugs on them they woyld not jave this problem (11/6/2025)

1648. This new way of recieving mail deprives us inmates of the sentimental value of things like pictures from loved one, birthday cards, christmas cards from loved ones. Aubiturarys of dead family members etc. The value of recieving something from your family in the flesh is different from downloading it to a tablet.what about when the tablet needs to be sent out for repair? My pictures my cards from loved ones have to be shipped out as well? How long will i be without these things? I feel the department of corrections should do more brainstorming on this issue because this way of going about it deprives us inmates of intimate relationships with our family (11/6/2025)

1649. This new rule about the mail is unfair my grandmother is 75 years old and is about to die and the mail from her is all I'm going have to remember her by and this rule is making it were I can not have her latters they are only partly scaned on the tablets and when asked for a copy of the whole latter I am told it can not be found this is upsetting
(11/6/2025)

1650. This is what i am having a problem with about this mail scan, my family members and friends buy greeting cards and post cards. They spend alot of money for stamps and cards and you say you gonna throw my mail away after six months thats wrong and you know it. If i cant get my mail then i want my mail returned back to sender becuse when my family and friends write me it really means something to me. I got family members not doing so well and my grandpa is not doing well. Getting letters from my elders will only people that are dying and you say i cant have mail and you want to delete scaned copies after six month and despose of the original hard copies where i can never read my grandpas or a dying family members letter again. I have 47years to do in the IDOC and not having mail from my family and friends that i can read and reread over and over with the many years i have to do it will mess with my mental health seriously. Plus my people are spending money for greeting cards, post cards and stamps for me to have NOT for you to throw away, they pay for mail to get to me, so its only fare and logical to

return my mail back to sender of i cant have it. Please take your time reading this its the best i can explain how meanful my mail means to my mental health (11/6/2025)

1651. this is wrong and my personal cards from my loved ones a well as letters with their words on them are pricless and irreplacable.this rule change should not b allowed and the simple considoration of your fellow human an thier personal attatchments to thing like a birthday card from grandma or a letter from mom.think of people with life to do.thier will come a time in thier sentence when thie loved ones will pass and those cards and letters will b all there is left for this person.i mean where is the humanity in this.the mail has been stopped and tje drugs are still here the same as usual so what does the rule stop? i mean really they have been over doseing everyday here none stop.so why spend more money that u dont have to stop somthing that will not stop.i strong urge u as a person to considor a letter from your mom or a card from grandma and then think of somone opening it making a copy of it an then throwing i away after a time period expires.this is really stupid and really redundent.i hope somone sees the light here.this will only create more problems then it solves. (11/6/2025)

1652. This is not fair due to tge fact that if you want to touch or get a real card picture or smell a letter you cant an some of the cards cost money hallmart is not cheap my family pay money to send me a card ect an i get a copy i thought it was illegal to open somenone eles mail (11/6/2025)

1653. This is not fair punishing ppl that didnt do anything wrong. Actual letters from loved ones means way more & as long already as mail takes this just prolongs the failed process even more. Im personally going through hell for legal mail clemency support letters as we speak. Just to get mail copied & sent to then go to the law library has been a nightmare. I say get rid of this scan mail asap! Ty (11/6/2025)

1654. They shouldnt do mail scan because theres is sentimental value from a letter pics and etc from your loved ones . They should also give us free messages on tablet . Like they use to with GTL e-mails and also allow our loved one to send message credits so we be able to respond with out having to wait long days for comisary slips.Also is lot of incarcerated individuals eho dont have tablet and will never get to see they mail because they cant log into they tablet cus they do not have one. Publications should be allowed . Also XXXRated magazines should be allowed i believe it will decrease the sexual need from most men in here. We all sexual beings . Theres none wrong with one using magazines to please they sexual needs. It will decrease sexual misconducts(107s) and anything of its nature as long is done while in cell behind privacy. They should also allow our families to send in comisary from vendors such as care packages and comissary and hygiene from trusted or verified vendors. (11/6/2025)

1655. What can we do about recieving letters, cards, and pictures from our loved ones that may hold a sentimental value? If we can only have them on our tablets for 6 months or just get a PHOTOCOPY of it, then those precious pieces will be lost forever or have no value at all. I have a elderly mother and other relatives that communicate with me and I cherish every thing that I get from them because before I am released they may be dead. My mom in particular. And I would love to have her Bible, which would not be coming from a vendor. (11/6/2025)

1656. This is a very bad policy. Poeple do not understand how much it means to us i here to

actually hold a letter we recieve from loved ones. I dont get many visits(do in large part to the many rule changes made over the last few years) so to actually have something my loved one held in their hands means the world to me. It really help me fell alittle more connected to them. Helps me fell less alone in the world. (11/6/2025)

1657. Theres nothing like being able to hold in your hand a writen letter from a love one, or to be able to physically hold pictures. I understand there are flaws in the system but they can be fixed. (11/6/2025)

1658. When doing the mail it is essential the right mail goes to the right person bc when the right mail goes to the wrong person it can present a real danger to someones family meaning nobody knows whom this mail may be going to and if the mail falls inthe wrong hands who knows what could possibly happen i am also requesting that once the mail is screened that we are able to get an actual copy (11/6/2025)

1659. Where is my mail ? I know people have sent me letters ...two weeks behind is totally unacceptable ...! And where are the copies i sent a request form in for two weeks ago ? ... (11/6/2025)

1660. You need more mailroom help obviously. The mail is a momth behind here now (11/6/2025)

1661. While i can understand he need to screen and even digitize written mail to slow down drugs in the facilities, i cannot fathom why any books that arent harmful in nature, would be blocked. There are systems in place to check books and publications brought in by family. And denying mailed or ordered books just because they are hard covered is unconscionable. Somebooks only come in hardback, and these types of policies only harm those of us who truely enjoy books and want to better ourselves. (11/6/2025)

1662. Why havent this procedure been implimented? (11/6/2025)

1663. Yall say that we can only have photos from outside companies not family or friends. And thats fine. So by our photos coming in from outside companies. We should still be able to recieve our physical photos instead of copies of them on our tablets. (11/6/2025)

1664. Yes there are bad actors who have saught to take advantage of the mail system by having contraband sent via the mail system, but for the majority of the aging poppulation who have older family members and friends who don't know how to register with corrlinks or how to set up video visits this proposed rule change only makes it harder for individuals in custody to communicate with family and friends, we understand the reason but the added pressure to an already overworked staff in the mail rooms just means longer delays in the approved mail that individuals in custody can receive. (11/6/2025)

1665. Well the mail is not getting to us in a timely manner. Most of my mail is two weeks late. Not being able ro recive hardcover books is not very fair , when if I want a hardcover book all I need to do is order a bible or a law book. (11/6/2025)

1666. Well i have a few first the mail is slower than christmas,whom ever is scanning the mail needs to be trained better.second we are supposed to get copies and that is even slower.third i know of people that someone else got there mail such as pictures,and such and the mail room don't know how to get them to the correct person. Also where does my mail go after the 6 months are up i hope it is sent back to the sender!! (11/6/2025)

1667. Well i have a few first the mail is slower than christmas,whom ever is scanning the mail needs to be trained better.second we are supposed to get copies and that is even slower.third i know of people that someone else got there mail such as pictures,and such and the mail room don't know how to get them to the correct person. Also where does my mail go after the 6 months are up i hope it is sent back to the sender!! (11/6/2025)

1668. We are not getting are mail the rigth way.like im waitting for my pic's rigth now.and they been here.
Not telling us how to get are people to sing up.
Not letting us use the Phone,like people in A gar
(11/6/2025)

1669. We are not getting our mail. Especially our pictures. (11/6/2025)

1670. We all know that none of this will really happen. We have not received any if our mail since this ordeal started. Why dont you really focus on how the contraband comes in through the visiting room, worry less about the mail we will never get like we are supposed to and figure out a way for people like me to receive all my edovo days from working on this tablet day and night and any free time i have so i can get out of prison faster and continue my education and my life. Thank you for your consideration. Please figure out how we can receive our edovo days soon please. (11/6/2025)

1671. We are allowed to irder greeting cards from outside companies and it is not in thia revision at all. The mailroom here at Logan is not even processing them through even if the deliveries were made prior to the publication of the memo dated 9/26/25 from Director Latoya Hughes, or the bulletin put out 10/15/25 by Warden of Operations Jason Lawerence. Its not in the A.D's or anything else that has been published since. (11/6/2025)

1672. Upon receiving this message my biggest concern is pertaining to Section 525.145 Sub part 2) B). Just recently someone I know receive some legal exhibit from his family that he needed to attach to his Post-conviction petition but when he asked for copies he was referred to apply for a F.O.I.A. to get the copies made. Subsequently he has still been waiting, while I do not object to upgraded procedures I do believe that steps have to be made to adequately adhere to this process of making a printed hard copy of our mail. You will have to conside upgrading the scanners and printers so that these copies can be delievered in a timely manner. I also notice that this policy does not account for the "Blind" individuals in custody. I believe that you a voice reader option has to be implemented for the blind individuals. Also Section 525.140 Sub Sec l) speak about purchasing typewriter from commissary but the commissary staff claim that IDOC has not provided them with a typewriter provider yet. I wrote Warden Mrs. Crow to inquire as to

the usage of the five desk top computer held in Big Muddy River C.C. Law Library with a few suggestings. I personally suggest the usage of "Zip Drives" and a printer that is in the custody of the law library supervisor office. Prior to my entry into IDOC I was being at Will County A.D.F. of whom had a desk top computer with a printer available in each pod. This computer was not connected to the internet or WiFi but had a "LEXIS NEXIS" file for printing case laws. I believe that IDOC could benefit from this process by allowing individuals to purchases Zip Drives from commissary. If you all allow us to purchase Zip Drives of different MB and keep them in the custody of the Law Library Supervisor Office upon our entry and exit we will not need to purchase typewriters or implement a app on the tablet for typing motions and legal documents that can be accessed by the Law Library Supervisor for printing only upon request or sometime. There has to be a modern replacement made to substitute the need for typewriters since we have a adroid device with Wifi and storage. Please be advise that Edovo does not have a spell-check section that pops up while typing words also please help. (11/6/2025)

1673. Type my comments here: Yes this change in mail is not right because its i believe 2500 hundred people in here and one person in the mail room right now mail is bagged up. (11/6/2025)

1674. Today i spoke with couselor Weiwel on not getting items printed from my tablet. She called the mailroom they said send date and name, number they would print. Tonight i got a response back from the kite i wrote yesterday to the mailroom stating "if you need mail physically it will have to come from the courthouse. If someone mails in from the outside besides the court house we have to scan it to give it to you., and we do not have a xerox machine yet to print off request"
I am doing motions pro se, had my family send copies from the court house, now i have missed my deadline tomorrow because the mail room cant print my documents. Also i had 2 family members send medical notes from the dr. Office about them that states they cant come this far medically since ive been transferred this far away, im waiting for these letters to be printed also for my hard ship transfer. I tried having the dr office send directly here, but no one knows where its at. This also is delaying my transfer paperwork by the mairoom not having the equipmemt to print. No one can get pictures printed also. This is all unexceptable. (11/6/2025)

1675. To start, according to a departmental memorandum handed down by Director Hughes, on or about Oct. 10, 2025, we (individuals in custody) are able to receive, at our request, a quality printed out copy of our scanned mail. To date, this mandate has not been fulfilled, nor do the proposed amendments make any allotment for this request.
The Administration in Springfield asserts that they care about our communications with our loves ones, but you do not even consider that we want to receive a letter that is endearing to us. What if, per se, I receive a letter from my mother that happens to be the last letter I'll ever receive from her because of an untimely passing (death)? According to the proposed amendments, I will only have access to the electronically scanned version of this letter for a period of six (6) months, at which point the scanned version AND the original will be disposed of. Then what? How am I able to go back and reflect on the things she shared with me, the advice she gave me? This brings me to my second point.
We have been told consistently by the CAO (@ Sheridan C.C.) that we will NOT be able to send the original mail document home. Why? To use my previous example, the letter from my mother

(or someone else, my child perhaps) is dear to me. Prior to this "emergency order" that changed how we receive our mail, I was able to send any personal mail home that I wanted. I just needed to pay for it and utilize the proper avenues. The current proposed amendments make ZERO allowance for addressing this matter. Technically, any mail we receive is our property. I am authorized, per the departmental rules, to send home my property at my expense. By the Administration not addressing this matter in the proposed amendments, they are creating a lot of unnecessary and foreseeable grievances in the future pertaining to this matter. (11/6/2025)

1676. Thus far, the scanning of non privileged mail has been sub par at best. A letter that was scanned to me had the final two pages scanned in blank. I made a reqiest to receive a printed copy of the letter but have had no response to my request. Plus there is no recourse to determine whether the scans are complete or if we are even able to review the original letter. (11/6/2025)

1677. Those of us who have tablets should be allowed to get copies of our mail and copies of any photo print enclosed. We can use our own funds for the copies. Also we should be allowed an app that would let each person know how money they have on their account, so we do not need to overwhelm the business office with request. These things should not get in the way of the the administration policies. Thanks for giving me the opportunity to add my ten cents. (11/6/2025)

1678. This SUCKS!!! Everything in IDOC is slow enough,now getting my mail will take even longer. Example,..my cellmate recieved a copy of a letter on his tablet on 11-3-2025 that was mailed here to him 9-17-2025. How is that helping us? I write to a few close family members and friends,its just nice to hold a piece of paper in your hand that YOU know they have touched it, held it,took the time to sit and give me a piece of their heart, their time in that moment to let me know they care enough about me to sit and write a letter,send some love on paper,..guote unguote..now it feels like IDOC is totally taking that away from me...makes me very sad. I dont like it,dont like it one bit! I should be given the option of either recieving mail, or the alternative. IT SUCKS. (11/6/2025)

1679. This not a good idea. Idoc already open legal mail, before they get to our cells. Then they fake like they opening the mail in front of you, when an fact its already open. Also people have legal mail log in the book but never receive it. (11/6/2025)

1680. This system has already been scientifically proven to NOT decrease the amount of synthetic drugs into institutions. The copied mail is notoriously lost, sent to the wrong tablet, copied in a skewed fashion to where parts of the letter are unintelligible and illegible, the mail is either destroyed or inmates are made to pay for copies of their own mail (that is akin to your mother throwing a part for you an YOU pay!), and the loss of emotional items, e.g..a child's hand painted into a turkey, by digitizing them and eventually losing them forever. This is also a money-grab kickback scheme seen over and over in the Prison Industrial Complex for decades. I am a.scientist, though, and will say, a person such as myself, who doesn't like clutter and saving mail, thus gives the excuse (blame the System) instead of family/friends/girlfriends/etc. thinking I am (we are) "weird" for not wanting to keep mail. Also, this is better for Artificial Intelligence to gather SOOOOOO much data on prisoners and (hopefully) one day use this data to make things cheaper, better (for cops AND robbers), safer (again, for cops AND robbers), and maybe,

JUST MAYBE, begin a more thorough and penintent Transformative Justice future of carceral complexes and ideals. (11/6/2025)

1681. This system is horrible.Sheridan does not give us any notification that we have mail.they also dont print your mail out for us.we are being denied sending out things.the mailroom goes out of their way to simply turn our mail around.return to sender is a common site that our loves see.something new has to happen.this is a crime. (11/6/2025)

1682. This new way of handling mail is putting a damper on communication between offenders and loved ones. Posting mail on the tablets have problems suxh as space for words and tagging of numbers on the mail for identification purposes. The mail room here in Big Muddy River Correctional isnt utilizing the free copy system that we were told would be put in service with the changes. Which also causes a problem for individuals in custody as far as responding to the mail that was sent via postal delivery. (11/6/2025)

1683. This new system is making it much more difficult to get my mail. I have sent many requests in regards to getting a cooy of my mail and i still have yet to hear back from them. I need my mail and i have not received a copy of it. Therefore making this new system frustrating. (11/6/2025)

1684. This mail system fails to recognize the urgency and legalities of correspondance from the Clerk of the Court.
I recently received such mail 28 days after it arrived here at Menard. This was nearly fatal to my case due to the late response. Clerk of Court should be delivered as Legal Mail to avoid this. The court and states attorney are quick to dismiss for any possible reason. (11/6/2025)

1685. This isnt working mail is so backed up. Its not productive people are waiting 2-3 months for mail (11/6/2025)

1686. This isnt working mail is so backed up. Its not productive people are waiting 2-3 months for mail (11/6/2025)

1687. this is becomeing a problem by them claiming to scan mail if mail is received and we don know its here they can just discard your mail we can no longer receive catalogs to order stuff for are family we cant send are loved ones anything becouse we cant get catlogs for gifts we cant get no books or magazines from amazon we cant get yearly planners off amazon which dont make sence becouse its comeing from the vender (11/6/2025)

1688. They do a very shitty job at digitizing our mail, not copying all parts of our letters, overlapping pages, etc. Furthermore when requested to print they do a Â½ ass job. Also, I mailed my mom a drawing on canvas and other stuff that was returned to sender because I wrote the wrong address on it and no it's stuck in the mail room and I can't resend it to my mom. Worst idea ever and on top of all this the drugs are still being brought in via correctional staff as evidenced by recen firings of correctional officer Ross and those with whom he told on. (11/6/2025)

1689. They nerd to just copy the mail and send it on the tablet that will save a lot of lifes. In hear please thank you (11/6/2025)

1690. They not giveing us our mail we dont know what they doing to our mail when they say they got rid of it man this stuff is not right they lieing bout it all (11/6/2025)

1691. These delays brought forth by the new mail rules is rediculous. What used to take 7-10 days for delivery, now takes 14 or more days. These rules cause undue delays in receiving news from home and what if it is important urgent news and by the time it is on the tablet it could be too late. D.O.C. wants to stop the flow of drugs and other contraband that they hurt those they say they want to help and those that they are suppose to care about (those who are residents of the state). It seems undue and unnecessary. In my 27 years under the control of the county and state, I have never seen this so called drug problem. If these drugs were coming through the mail; why did the mailroom not have workers falling out daily? I do not know what mail goes on the tablet and what will come to my cell as the rules make little sense. Nothing will change by these rules except more punishment for those that follow rules and no consequences for those that are truely the problem. Enough of my soapbox!!! (11/6/2025)

1692. These mail changes are a little ridiculous. The fact that all suffer for mistakes of many. I hope changes can be made to the length of time these documents are on your personal tablet because we should be able to keep them indefinetely, as well as request the printed document. I would like to suggest individuals in custody get access or IDOC institutes the Photo and Video Messaging app as some, like myself, like digital documents. It would allow us to strengthen communication, as well an might make it easier for family to send photos we can keep on our tablet. Also, I was sent photos two weeks ago and they still not have been processed to my mail. I am hoping this is a work in progress and the timeframes can be improved. (11/6/2025)

1693. These new changes have greatly reduced effeciency of how mail is handled and impacted the timely fashion in which mail is distributed (11/6/2025)

1694. No, comments (11/6/2025)

1695. What You're Trying To Do Is Not Going To Be A Walk In The Park. But It Will Take You A Long Time. But You Will Find A Way To Make It Work. (11/6/2025)

1696. I think its not right at all (11/6/2025)

1697. Yall are breaking the law (11/6/2025)

1698. Yall be on bullshit with the mail man (11/6/2025)

1699. I think it is a good thing (11/6/2025)

1700. Yea great ideal (11/6/2025)

1701. You want some feedback, okay! Isn't it clear to everyone why, exactly, these changes are

taking place? By "everyone", I mean every person involved with IDOC on a closer-than-just-taxpayer basis! The "Thrax"/"K2"/"smoke" is hurting Individuals In Custody, both smokers and non-smokers, alike, not to mention perpetuating the same mentality which caused the Individual In Custody to end up here in the first place!
"Population Control" might be a real thing, but this is TORTURE, watching folks zombie-out on a drug that is more likely just pure poison under the guise of a drug! It is a real problem, so thank God for some form of intervention (even if it doesnt completely stop the chemicals/drugs from coming in!)!
Yes, the tablets are a great idea, regardless of the bigger purpose (?) for the implimentation of new mail policy, but it is a nice thing to have, overall, with the free tablet, thus the radio/free headphones, which goes a long way for many of us incarcerated! (11/6/2025)

1702. You guys are keeping peoples important pictures of our babies and familes from us (11/6/2025)

1703. While i acknowledge the facility saying that restricting mail will stop drugs,respectfully,that is not true.a lot of the drugs and contraband tjat comes in is through staff.they are using whatever drugs that come through the mail as a smoke screen for corrupt staff.since the restriction of mail i have gotten 4 pieces of mail on my tablet and i put in a written request for a paper copy of each letter.its been weeks an i still have not gottwn a copy of my mail.this is a way for staff to be more lazy an not have to oass out mail.every time someone falls out or gets sick all of a sudden staff accuses everyone of getting high.i came from menard where an officer falsely accuse me of being high and searched my cell only to see i was cooking.she stuck to her story and ended up lying on a ticket saying i cursed her and she broke my radio gave away my commissary and broke my tv then sen me to seg for insolence and disobeying and broken tv.nowhere in the ticket was anything about drugs which she accused me of.mind you i have never had a drug ticket or dirty drop ever nor have i ever been accused of cursing staff or disrespecting them in 20 years of incarcetation.all this because staff are using this drug thing on everybody now.you need to higher better staff and limit intetacrion with inmates so they dont establish bonds.you have staff facilitating contraband and helping inmates make drugs with roach spray and fertilizers right in the facilities.i personally would like to keep my paper mailbut maybe because im old fashioned.i dont jave a solution to stopping drugs from bein in the mail except staff needs to check the mail thoroughly as required.do their jobs.its strange though that staff saythey touch mail and fall out yet the officerthat delivers it aint fall out nor the inmate that received it.and you have staff walk on a gallery and then walj off then fall out.why he didnt fall out on the gallery if he was exposed?because its a tactic to make everything about drugs.no officer want to okay passing out around inmates so they wait to gey off the gallery then fake fall outs.make the mailroom do their jobs and give them the tools to test.also i never understood why if it test pisitive why not let the officer deilver it toth inmate and let internal affairs come right in behind him and arrest the guy for drugs and charge him.that is being caught red handed and when you start charging guys they will stop.if you take it out the mailroom then you give guys the ability to say it aint mine or i had nothing to do with who sent it.right now im brainstorming and doing more work than staff about this.stop taking lazy ways out and do your job.not everyon in here wants to get high or b in cells with people high or around the stuff.yet in here we are all accused or assumed to be high and treated as such. (11/6/2025)

1704. While I am not averse to the idea of electronic mail delivery in theory, in practice there are a number of serious concerns which need to be resolved: 1) The memo posted in the Bulletins section on our tablets discloses that these proposed changes are not based on any reports, studies, or data establishing the validity of the problem. Essentially, the changes are being proposed based on rumor, assumptions, and gossip. While the problem may, and likely does, actually exist, the proper due dilligence needs to be done before Chicken Little declares that the sky is falling. 2) Since the sudden implementation of these policies on an "emergency" basis at the beginning of October, there has been virtually no mail delivery AT ALL at this facility (Logan). We do not know where our mail has gone, and no one is taking any responsibility for the disappearance. The last mail I received was postmarked 9/9/25 (received more than a month later), and there has been none since. I know for a fact that I have correspondence missing, and the rest of the population here at Logan reports the same thing. Yet no one...neither staff nor administration, will make any effort to investigate or resolve the issue. WHERE IS OUR MAIL??? (11/6/2025)

1705. While IDOC tend to only look at the individuals in custody, if IDOC has to "constantly make changes to combat the drug problem" through the mail, if constant changes are being made and nothing is stopping, then i believe IDOC needs to look deeper into the structure of their facilities, OFFICERS!!! (11/6/2025)

1706. While it's unfortunate that the prison was facing a growing drug problem, involving the mail service, it, in my opinion, doesnt rise the the level of punishing everyone else. Im an "individual" in custody, but the many are suffering for the few. Im sure IDOC had good intentions with the implementation of the new mail program, but its already proving to be a problem. For example, my birthday was october 7th. Here it is, november 5th, and I haven't received mail that was sent to me before my birthday. The wait time is frustrating when you know you have mail, and youre not getting it, because someone decided it wasnt important enough to get it to you. Who is going to make sure the mail gets scanned in a timely manner. Its not the warden. Its not the higher ups in Springfield. There is a complete lack of oversight, and as long as that persists, there will always be a problem with the mail. In a seperate situation, a church group sent me a piece of mail, and they failed to scan the entire piece of paper. So, care will have to be a part of the solution as well. Who do we (individuals in custody) have, that we can complain to, that will actually hear us, instead of letting our issues fall on deaf ears? (11/6/2025)

1707. Why are all inmates being punished for the action of other inmates and staff? Staff members bring contraband into prisons half of the time! (11/6/2025)

1708. Why cant we continue to get mail the old way it doesnt make sense to stop it because yall are not gonna be able to stop the paper from coming in. (11/6/2025)

1709. Why do IDOC and staff continue to take away from individual in custody with this claim thats its the individual in custody and their family and friends thats sending in the contraband. When it has been staff. (11/6/2025)

1710. With the mail situation i think everything that comes in mail wise and legal mail from

court and atternys should be scand before we get them cause you never know whats in the envelopes (11/6/2025)

1711. Yall stoped giving us physcal mail do to the drug issu but stoping our mail has not stoped the amount of drugs coming in. Drugs are coming in from legal mail, vissets, and c/o's you all have not fixed the problom in any way shape or form it was not even a good try. On top of that next year a bill signd by jb pritsker goes in to affect stating all inmates will be intittled to there orignal physcal mail this new mail thing you all have started will not last. Good luck (11/6/2025)

1712. Yes I think it is a better way to do mail by putting our mail on tablets to keep the drugs and all kinds of stuff out of the prison systems. (11/6/2025)

1713. Yes i think its a good thing cause im tired of having to deal with these fake drugs thats been floating around and ruining people lives.They should keep not letting certain mail in maybe they can help save lives (11/6/2025)

1714. Yes inmate should get regular mail sent in form loves ones letter, books,magazines, pictures those things keep inmate connected to the real world in love ones in higher education upon release thank you (11/6/2025)

1715. You shouldnt eliminate physical mail entirely, there are a plethora of ways to screen out the obvious problem. Not to mention the other part of it that has nothing to so with the mail, not to point fingers , simply addressing the scuttlebutt. But eliminating mail isnt going to stop it Im sorry to say (11/6/2025)

1716. You are just pilling up all that mail when you could just have drug dogs search the mail. Also its also known that c.o.s are getting arrested for drugs and its possible that they are bringing it in. (11/6/2025)

1717. Wont work overall. Chances of misplaced mail to the wong inmate can be a potential issue personally, physically as well as emotional and mental. Wrong eyes on the wrong mail could be anproblem for the intended reipient without there knowledge. Personal infrmation can be misplaced or sent wrong. Vital information as in health or notificaion of loss can be delayed indefinitely or unintentionally all with potential results affecting an individual across the board with chance of crisis occuring. Intentions may be for better overall but in end it will case more problems universally. (11/6/2025)

1718. You administrators refuse to even ackowledge that your own employees, outsourced medical workers, and volunteers are also entering contraband into your facilities, not to mention legal visitors. Because you shirk the truth, you perpetually chase your tails when it comes to combating contraband. It's very telling how you refuse to think LIKE a criminal in order to hinder criminal activity. Keep doing what you've been doing and you will continue to get the same results. (11/6/2025)

1719. What is the benefit of the new mail process?; is it really legal this new mail process? Or is it another way to pory into an person life. I mean come on; this process based on absolutely

trust, and there is really nothing else to talk about, you just git to go with the flow or get nothing. What all the new mail process capable of? Let me know if it's really legal or not; cause I would love to sue if it is not. (11/6/2025)

1720. What ever is better for everyone and that is going to help us.. (11/6/2025)

1721. Well, I really think that everybody doesn't deserve to be punish because some people mess up; The department do not punish every c\o's when they mess up or kill inmate!!! So why take are mail because the c\o's do not want to work, Remember we still human being who just mess up in life people need to stop action if they never did "NO" wrong in they life the different is we just got lock up in other people got away!! This system so breaking y'all will blame inmate for everything. But always remember God see everything. (11/6/2025)

1722. Well. I have an R74402 # and i can say that these people get drugs or raid sprayed paper in here some how. Visits. Mail. Legal mail. Somehow right. Why dont you consider this for a second.... Scan all mail or change how people comunicate. See i view it as simple but thats me.let these people be idiots and fry their brain cells and damage short term memory function...or prevent them from accessing the stuff. These guys are zombied out, o'd'ing, dieing, and stealing and stuff so how does this not get niped in the bud so to speak. Its on paper i think its a solid like crack is too, and these guys keep it on their person and in ther pockets and have it at meal time in the kitchen cafateria. This is why you are scanning letters and incomming mail right. Sounds like a personell issue or a money issue for the equiptment to expidite this scanning process. I personally dont like my mail being destroyed and a brown paper bag given to me as the means of your attempt to give me my mail, butt i know where i am. I mean only to provide you with some insight and stradegy points of view to remedy the problem. Just a thought, what happens when enough is enough. I hope you find a solution to this problem because it is messed up enough in these cells without drugs and death. (11/6/2025)

1723. Welp considerin i have never recieved mail and the drugs are still a problem its retarded and has done nothing. (11/6/2025)

1724. Well your proposed changes are not on the tablet they put them on and took them down right away so you can't look them over when they do something wrong, like putting someones mail on a another persons tablet or like in my case first putting appoved publication mail like a letter on the tablet, which days later i got mail form a publication and they gave me my mailed letter. An when we get books in there not giving us are shipping froms with them so if we need to send them back we can't because we don't have the recipt and are mail is at best 30 days behind and thats be nice about it, its longer! I know your trying to stop the paper there smoking and thats a goodthing but for the people like me who follow the rules and do the right thing we get punish for those who break the rules and thats not right, i think those who break the rules with druges and smoking paper should have there mail inspected and put on a list, not one breaks a rule and we all are in the same boat! Thats not right. (11/6/2025)

1725. Well they took my 5 magazines away every time my parents come and see me on a visit every single Monday cuz these people wanna smoke that dumb shit and did it slow anything down, hell no and oh yeah I cant have my physical mail and recieve it in a timely manner but I

get to look at it on my tablet and did that stop them from smoking that dumbass bug spray on paper, no, so yeah great job. (11/6/2025)

1726. Well we should be able to get are pictures we had are love ones sent to us but kbowing u guys really DONT CARE ABOUT US so if u can let us have are maill i dont CARE ABOUT YOUR DRUGS on papper not every one dose it! I lost my brother in out of DCFS and i have my sister sent me pics neve have i got em but she also sent them to MENARD CORR CTR wher i was touch harrasment c.os made me suck there dick but seen i wasnt the person who would say some i was scared but i would love if u can help me HEAL HELP ME get my pictures all im saying! Let us get free creidts like GTL tablets as well (11/6/2025)

1727. Well We Should be allowed to at least Recive Mail. (11/6/2025)

1728. Well i just hope that these changes are for the right reason and not just another excuse to make things harder for individuals in custody to receive things especially the less fortunate ones everything has always been take take take and nothing beneficial is given its always a detriment something to hold you back or make life harder on the individuals in custody or to enforce that you have no power and limited right a show of excessive authority when their are things more importanr that needs to be given this much attention like staff conduct etc i would like to continue but it will defeat the purpose (11/6/2025)

1729. Well it does not matter to me because i do not get muchail. (11/6/2025)

1730. Well its a good thing and a bad thing some time I.D.O.C have to do what best for the staff and poeple that is in I.D.O.C (11/6/2025)

1731. Well first off this is fucked up that we all half to suffer for the works of others stopping are mail is bogus cause alot of us people dont have tablets and look forward to mail so they can show there kids the letters they got from them like my kids are bbys so they draw for me and ask me all the time daddy do u still have my pic what am i to say no they put it in the trash what the fuck (11/6/2025)

1732. Well i agree with every change of oir mail for the public safety of others that dont condone in doing drugs and are rehabilitating; thing i dislike and disagree with is our loved ones pictures being destroyed wether, its the original copies and/or of our tablets(these shouldn't be erased of our tablets, until we go home). Then, the original pictures should be mailed back to our families and loved ones, because they may hold and be of very significant value. Also, after they are scanned and uploaded to our tablets they should automatically make a copy of every single picture and be handed a physical copy of every single picture, we shouldn't have to request copies or have our pictures destroyed when our loved ones spent their hard earned money on purchasing them and to send them to us. (11/6/2025)

1733. Well as long as we still get books and physical copies of pictures of loved ones (11/6/2025)

1734. We want our mail passed out...! (11/6/2025)

1735. We want our mail simple as that (11/6/2025)

1736. Well i dont really have a problem wih the mail bein uploaded to the tablets.my only issue is this if you say we cant receive mail unless its from a company.so theres other photo companies that send photos directly from there company.these companies include snapfish & shutterfly,as well as peli post but most of us use freeprints. (11/6/2025)

1737. Well as long as we still get books and physical copies of pictures of loved ones (11/6/2025)

1738. We want our mail passed out...! (11/6/2025)

1739. We want our mail simple as that (11/6/2025)

1740. We shouldn't have any restrictions on our mail. We should be able to have blow up dolls sent to us at any time. This would make us very happy and more relaxed. (11/6/2025)

1741. We hope that this way will be a lot better,and that we will get our mail on time.and that our pictures will come straight to us for now on. (11/6/2025)

1742. We hate the way mail is being ran (11/6/2025)

1743. WE ARE TIRED OF THIS DRUG PROBLEM THAT OVERWELMS THE ONES THAT ARE DOING THE RIGHT THING, BUT ITS A GAME TO THESE DRUG ADDICTS... I AM ALL FOR THIS VIDEO MAIL, AS LONG AS WE GET OUR MAIL IN A TIMLY MANOR (11/6/2025)

1744. We as inmates should be allowed tp have all our mail. There should be some kind of way to detect chemicals and other substances and catch them before they get into the facilities. (11/6/2025)

1745. Very glad these changes are made. It makes the facilities safer. I'm 100% in support of these changes. And not a moment too soon. Good work. (11/6/2025)

1746. Very good (11/6/2025)

1747. Very unhappy about this because although I am very well aware of the reasoning behind this, I don't feel I should b punished for others' mistakes. I personally bought $100+ worth of books before taking my time so that I could read, learn & grow while I was away. I can no longer have my books mailed in nor have any way to return these books or an alternative method of receiving them. I wouldn't care if it took a whole month to go page by page checking each of my books, as long as I am still able to read them (11/6/2025)

1748. Was told that the law hadn't passed for us to receive mail on tablet yet their still practicing it by putting mail on tablet. (11/6/2025)

1749. To Whom it Mah Concern:
I completely support the spirit of these rule changes, for my concern is for the safety of all, both of the staff or the individual in custody persuasion. I just hope, when new information does from time to time become available, that the IDOC administration will be open to making further amendments, even if these amendments may contradict previous ones. As I said, I'm for the safety of both population and staff, and if rule changes are made with safety, security and compassion at the forefront of the mind, I'm confident the right choices will be made. I just ask for openness, honesty and integrity in any studies that are undertaken..... As a side note, I just received a scanned postal mail document, which included a copy of the envelope, the enclosed letter and all five of the accompanying pictures. I'm quite impressed with the quality of the file, and with the fact it only took five days after the postmark to arrive on my device. Having much of my mail in this format will save me a lot of room. One hopes, if ICSolutions is ever dropped as IDOC's technology provider, that each scanned document will either transfer to the device provided by the next tech provider â€" if there would be one; or each document will be printed out as paper copies and forwarded to each respective individual. Thank you for your time and efforts.
Jason Marksteiner #M03760 (11/6/2025)

1750. To much to understand (11/6/2025)

1751. This change would be a calamity. You are basically saying f*ck our pictures, since they will be deletes after 6 months, if we cant request printouts then they are juat gone! This would be an outrage and it will ratchet up the tension in your prisons dramatically. (11/6/2025)

1752. To make it better in here thats a start. Still need to do a lot more. (11/6/2025)

1753. Though I Do Understand The Importance of Riding paper drugs that are mixed with different substances the new mail rules are more of a henderance for staff and individuals in custody and makes a already long wait more longer there are many people who dont like to call others would rather send a letter to articulate what they mean this is lost by the new rules also people dont have a lot of money to buy new books you are better having a trained k-9 smell the mail because it will be able to detect the illegal substance if it's that serious i personally would open mail let dog sniff dog says some thing wrong confiscate & test its would save time and elevate the problem but hay what do i know i only took action K-9 training and personally know the owner Tim Clancy And worked for tribe security who at the time had a former florida DOC trainer and Military special forces trainer doing our training yes i can disarm you and also worked at sporting events but enough about that the point is clear what is the most effective and efficient way of proceding forword which is not the new way It's the way i said which is derived off comon sense but we will see if any one reads this and has enough common sense to listen
E.O.S (11/6/2025)

1754. This was in response to the growing drug epidemic in IDOC and the increasing number of staff and indivuals in custody deaths. However, regular institutional mail, is not the route the drugs take into the facilities. The laws regarding legal mail need to be reevaluated and stricter. Thats the main and most popular route. Not too mention, the leniency most facilities have

towards the individuals using and selling this contraband. Start handing out harsher punishments as a detterent. In my facility, when individuals are caught high outside the cell, they just lock them back into their cells. They rarely go to seg. The entire block could smell like smoke. COs play oblivious. I feel like on a facility level, they would rather have us be high. Keeps us docile and inactive. We dont stand up for or advcate for ourselves and the few little rights we still have. (11/6/2025)

1755. This will not combat the problems with contraband. There is no perfect utopian system or environment where things will be run in such a way where people, inmates, visitors, and IDOC employees will not circumvent the rules or system. (11/6/2025)

1756. This would be great because safety is good ...Thank you all an if theres anyything i can do to help out , please let me know. (11/6/2025)

1757. This violate 1 admenment right of the u.s consotution,why i say that it was not no law pass by the illinios house or senate,this open the doors for c/o's in other officers to break laws when you by pass the process,first these tablets are not ours idoc control them in they violate so many rules,mail is a right in i should be able to have my personal mail, books, pictures,magazines e.c.t,these tablets crash they in these personal things can get lost,i tell the Dem party if they think i will let my family vote for them next year they have to first stop idoc from breaking all the rules.
(11/6/2025)

1758. This violation of a persons rights. So what they are saying is that we have no rights , no voice. This is not about drugs being sent in , because if it was then the guards would get searched, and drug tested. Which would show that (what in the dark will come to the Light. (11/6/2025)

1759. This should be a federal offense to tamper with out mail we are in state prison not federal those rules do not apply to our state prison i understand you all are trying to keep synthetic cannabinoids out of prison but you are violating our rights as well a our amendments the mail had a process to be screened before now our mail has no privacy being opened and passed around to be ""photo scanned"" for us on our tablets then you try to bend the rules of our constitution to your way of processing mail . i really hope this back fires on Illinois department of corrections in a result in a civil law suit for as much money we could get because you are violating our privacy by invasion of mail privacy (11/6/2025)

1760. This system has already been scientifically proven to NOT decrease the amount of synthetic drugs into institutions. The copied mail is notoriously lost, sent to the wrong tablet, copied in a skewed fashion to where parts of the letter are unintelligible and illegible, the mail is either destroyed or inmates are made to pay for copies of their own mail (that is akin to your mother throwing a part for you an YOU pay!), and the loss of emotional items, e.g..a child's hand painted into a turkey, by digitizing them and eventually losing them forever. This is also a money-grab kickback scheme seen over and over in the Prison Industrial Complex for decades. I am a.scientist, though, and will say, a person such as myself, who doesn't like clutter and saving mail, thus gives the excuse (blame the System) instead of family/friends/girlfriends/etc. thinking

I am (we are) "weird" for not wanting to keep mail. Also, this is better for Artificial Intelligence to gather SOOOOOO much data on prisoners and (hopefully) one day use this data to make things cheaper, better (for cops AND robbers), safer (again, for cops AND robbers), and maybe, JUST MAYBE, begin a more thorough and penintent Transformative Justice future of carceral complexes and ideals. (11/6/2025)

1761. This system is horrible.Sheridan does not give us any notification that we have mail.they also dont print your mail out for us.we are being denied sending out things.the mailroom goes out of their way to simply turn our mail around.return to sender is a common site that our loves see.something new has to happen.this is a crime. (11/6/2025)

1762. This rule change is sort of confusing because in one of the memmos it says not to have your love ones send mail that they want back. Keeping that in mind some pictures can not be copied so this stops us from getting said picture or we have to lose it and the pictures only stay on our tablet for 6 months. Everyone is being punished for selected individuals whom are breaking the rules this is bogus. (11/6/2025)

1763. This service is terrible. I don't like receiving mail on there it's not private. (11/6/2025)

1764. This shit is goofy fuck yall puttin mail onna tablets fo (11/6/2025)

1765. This shoould not be a allowed rhey need to be fired for. Doing such things to us, mail the only thing we got that our Family sends us. It shouldnot be posted on s Tablet for all to read, i know it a federal offense, and i am haveing my Lawyer look in to this.. (11/6/2025)

1766. This process that you are trying to implement will make life harder for people that are incarcerated fo multiple years to come.If you implement this process you will take the value of family love ones that value and take there time to send senitmental value mail to there love ones that cherish an hold on to as a gift of love and appreciation...This tablet does not belong to me at all so if the prison was to punish me an take this tablet my sentimental mail becomes there property which the ou of my love ones sending me sentimental mail....In fact it also takes the value of me being able to go into my personal items and look at the things my family and love ones have sent out of love and appreciate as a individual...The mail system is already a problem for all prisons due to the lack of staffing in the department of corrections.....My mail is federal I am intitled to my mail do to federal law.... (11/6/2025)

1767. This proposed action is a contradicton to the mission statement of IDOC in that it takes away individuals relationships and connections with family and loved ones, and is infact a violation of our due process of receiving free mail from the outside world provided by the federal government and paid for by our loved ones. The receiving of physical mail is essential for maintaining meaningful relationships and sentimental connections with loved ones. As an individual incarcerated, i want to receive and physically touch a card or letter that i receive from my children and grandchildren. That means more to me than some photo copied piece of digital data on my tablet. The federal postal service generates measurable benefits for incarcerated persons by strenghtening reunification efforts. This proposal should not pass, it takes away our freedom of comminicating with our loved ones and costs us individuals monitary funds that most

of us cant even afford, it causes more of a burden and anxiety towards us, therefore affecting our mental health. This proposed idea is a bad one and is made out of gaining profit, profitizing off of us individuals and not beneficial towards our rehabilitation. (11/6/2025)

1768. THIS POLICY OF TAKING OUR MAIL AWAY FROM US BECAUSE OF DRUGS SHOULD FALL ON THE WARDENS AND IDOC NOT THE INDIVDIUALS LOCKED UP....HERE AT WESTERN ILLINOIS CORR CENTER THE WARDENS ALLOW THE DRUGS TO BE PRCOSSED IN...THERE PRIORITY ISNT STAFF AND INDIVDIUALS IN CUSTODY WELL BEING BUT THERE PERSONAL IMAGE BEING TAINTED WHICH KEEPS THEM FROM PROMOTING...STAFF HAS BEEN CAUGHT BRINGING DRUGS IN THIS PRISON BUT IT ISNT TALKED ABOUT...ITS ALWAYS BLAMED ON THE GUYS LOCKED UP... (11/6/2025)

1769. This Prevents Use From Connecting With Our Love Ones I Understand The Reason Behind The Change But For People In The Future That Has To Spend The Rest Of There Lives Here Its Not Fair. Stuff From Our Kids We Wont Get. Stuff From Love Ones We Wont Get. It Will All Be Put On The Tablet But After 60 Days It Get Deleted Then We Wont Ever See It Again.. (11/6/2025)

1770. This new system sucks!!! You ideots say that you're doing this
stupid shit because of cotriband comming in to the prisons but,
You arenot stuping shit. Your co.s are bringing shit in you stupid fucks!!! (11/6/2025)

1771. This new mail system have no foundation. As familys have to mail the mail to the facility to be placed on the Tablet which it would be eazyer if yall just allow the familys to send mail and photos uploaded to this (11/6/2025)

1772. This issue is based on drugs being so called sent in mail but evey one should not have to go through the because now the mail takes longer and drugs are still in facility, so if you ask me the issue is bigger than something coming through the mail or visiting room (11/6/2025)

1773. This mail is trash yall taking pictures of our pictures it dont look right. Why cant we just get them through email (11/6/2025)

1774. This method of mail feels very impersonal (11/6/2025)

1775. This new mail idea is ridiculous! If it's drugs that the administration is worried about, then why not drug test the mail or have a K9 inspect it?! When I receive physical mail from my loved ones, it makes me feel close to them because I can smell their scent on the mail. Now, I won't have that luxury anymore! :'(:((11/6/2025)

1776. This isnt fair, we have family members who cant afford to buy us books at store, catalog prices and they go to second hand stores like thirft stores, and the like to find books at really low cost compared to buying them new. This seems like the work of capitalist trying to make us buy books from big box stores and not help small stores, this is insane we should have the right to choose low prices not them tell us you can only buy here or their. Thats monopolisim!

(11/6/2025)

1777. This isnt going to stop the people that are participating in the illicit activity of "smoking paper" . The word on the main line is that most of this contraband is being sent in by means of the legal mail. Third parties using a "shell company lawyers office" sending in sheets of paper laced with God only knows what?. You wanna stop people smoking PAPER in prison. Start putting those dumb asses in solitary confinement with no access to any of their property. No movement, no interaction with any human individual, only photo copied mail shown to you on a tablet through a glass window. ALL LEGAL MAIL CROSS REFERENCED WITH POLICE DATABASES, (FULLY VETTED AND REGISTERED ATTORNEYS ON A STATE POLICE DATABASE.) START GIVING THESE DUMB ASSES STUPID TIME AT 100% WITH THE ADDITION OF LIFETIME MSR FOR ANY VIOLATION REGARDING THE USE OF ILLICIT MIND ALTERING AND DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES WHILE INCARCERATED. Bet you will start seeing the results once these guys start coming back from court telling all the homies
Dumbass#1:
" damn joe they gave me another 8 yrs at 100% and now I got the msr for life!! On my mama joe! On 4 and thems grave joe!"
Dumbass#2
"daaayuuum joe! On my mama they did you bogus!
RESULTS.....?
JUST A THOUGHT.
(11/6/2025)

1778. This is ridiculous. I recieved a letter from September 12th on October 25th due to the change. (11/6/2025)

1779. This is some bullshit i want my pictures books etc this tablet lose service all the time dont work at time etc..the real way to communicate is best for people as well as learning from teacher other students etc... (11/6/2025)

1780. This is stopping nothing. The administration used a false flag and hell the officers are the ones bringing the drugs in thbjoint (11/6/2025)

1781. This is stupid as i dont even know. I understand stopping contraband to the best of idoc ability, but to basically put a ban on everything except legal mail and books direct from publishers/amazon is ridiculous. Recieving certain mail, cards, letters, pictures from loved ones brings joy, happiness, sentimentality. Idoc want to take that away because they cant control certain contraband. Yet they tell us communication, (letters, pictures, etc.) Are a key to successful re-entry, mental health, and persevering through incarceration. It is self-contradicting. There has to be a better/different way to achieve these goals. (11/6/2025)

1782. This is stupid. Its taking even longer for our family to be able to contact us. Were not even allowed to use our tablets whenever we want because it cuts off at 12! We are not kids we are grown men. I would like my real pictures and my real mail. I believe this is a violation of my mail priveleges.i can not access my mail and pictures whenever i want because IDOC mail room

is not doing there job and cant seem to get control of this k2 crisis. If they were so smart like the claim to be..they would realize that its not just coming through in the mail.the staff are bringing it in.they focus on one thing and then forget about all the other ways inmates can recieve contraband. (11/6/2025)

1783. This is the dumpest shit cause it the reason that they suppose to have stop the cause if the suppose smoking well it's still smoking so you know it was not the mail. (11/6/2025)

1784. This is not fair to inmates we have a hard enough time here as it is this just makes things more difficult sometimes family members have there own books at home they wanna send without spending money. Sometimes our kids want to draw us picture and decorate cards for us we are still living being jail foes not suppose to deprive us of life. (11/6/2025)

1785. This is not jus we are being punished for the crimes of people we dont even know (11/6/2025)

1786. This is not right we shoud be able to get our mail from our people (11/6/2025)

1787. This is not the right solution to the drug problem. They take our mail and scan it, they strip search us from our visits. The real problem is the staff and administrqtion are promoting the drugs by bringing the drugs into our institution and selling to choice individuals that they trust. Then they sell it to thier friends or other drug addicts for profit so the staff and administraion can get paid. It makes about as much sense to stop our mail as it would be to stop staff and admin workers from coming into this facilty. The real problem is the staff members are lazy and they try thier hardest to take everything away from us. They have stopped our mail, they stripp search us and run us through a x-ray machine before and after our visits. But yet everyday there is the same amout of inmates falling out or overdosing. They want you all to believe that our family and friends are bringing in the drugs or mailing them in. Once again it is the staff and admin bringing the drugs in, they need to be searched coming in and out. And the go through the sally port to go smoke where there isnt anybody there to search them. I have been locked up for over 15 years without ever getting a ticket, but yet iam being punished by the very people that bring the drugs in by taking my mail away. Thats a whole other issue, they are sending our mail and pics to the wrong inmates by scanning it. If you care sincerly thank you. (11/6/2025)

1788. This is just another pointless way to make people get busy work. The so called drug problem has not stopped and in my opinion as long as there is a market people will find a way to continue to obtain it. (11/6/2025)

1789. This is messed up. I am not a United States citizen, and i need my mail physically in my hands, because my mail comes from my Royal Norwegian Consulate General, and it is my lawful right! To deny me my mail physically in my hands, is a violation of Human Rights.. I don't care if you photocopy it, and then hand it to me in here, no problem! I have rights! Just because i am an inmate does NOT mean i am without rights.. - Kurt R. Olsen- (11/6/2025)

1790. This is not a good idea because we have to wait weeks until we recieve our mail and or pictures its unfair to us. They take longer for us to recieve our mail they scann it in when they

want to we are unable to get our pictures in physical form and that is not right knowing that our family spend their money to send us pictures and we can only see them on the tablet not right at all i have been waiting a month for my pictures now and still have not recieved not one since this mail scan stuff started. I do not agree with this change at all. (11/6/2025)

1791. This is not a good idea for us in IDOC Due to everyone not able to electric (11/6/2025)

1792. This is not a good ideal to have mail on the tablet it invades privacy also it leads to crimeby crooked staff l am totally opposed to this new procedure of mail on the tablet and majority of individuals are too l earnestly ask that you not put the mail on the tablet also other problems most likely would be occuring for staff it is too
Broad to discuss such as physical labor by staff which they believe would be avoided etc.l am asking that you thouroghly reconsider mail on the tablet thank you.
(11/6/2025)

1793. This is going to make mail take longer, more work for staff to scan it all. (11/6/2025)

1794. this is crazy but just let me out the rest of my time on house arrest (11/6/2025)

1795. This is a waste of time (11/6/2025)

1796. This is all erroneous and extraneous. Disciplinary procedures are in place for violators, and most rules are insignificant - or adverse to how society functions. Unless someone gets hurt or is threatened by harm the staff should stay out of the way! Also, if disciplinary procedures are in place - despite most rules being unnecessary - why attempt to regulate prisoner conduct to the extent that they cannot commot rule infractions. The point should be to have a semi laissez faire mentality to determine who is and is not fit to participate in programming, and/or return to society. You're training people in prison how to function under extreme fascist rule, and it interrupts their progress toward becoming healthy fully functioning adults. (11/6/2025)

1797. This has made certain things extremely difficult. Like for example, i needednmy mother to mail me a large package of medical information regaurding my heart conditions for a joe coleman release. I ended up having to fill out what i could, which i feel was inadequate, then send her what i had, so ahe could print my certificates from edovo and add them, plus all the recomendation letters for my release. It all takes time, and with my health condition that is something that i may not have. It did nothing to stem the flow of drugs into the facility, which is why i wrote up a proposal for a rehabilitation wing. One that would not cost the department any money. I actually found a way for it to be used to save the department money, but havent gotten a response. I am still advocating for it though, because i believe if administrastion would work with me, we could promote some positive change throughout the facility, and possibly be the model for the other facilities in the state. (11/6/2025)

1798. This has to be unconstutional. (11/6/2025)

1799. This hinders non drug using individuals who already have their favorite books at home and cant have their families send them. Also its a lit more expensive, most online retailers still

sell their used books at premium prices whereas local yard sales may have free or books for as low as 25Â¢. Most individuals who read do not have a money for TV and cant afford more expensive options for books. (11/6/2025)

1800. This is a complete joke. There isn't a problem with drugs coming through the mail because the officers are bring them in. I know they (IDOC) are going to say that there has been a "dramatic reduction" in drug related overdoses and overall episodes. The reason behind this "reduction" is because (IDOC)specifically those at Pinckneyville are not reporting these drug related incidents. I currently reside in/at 4B 33 and everyday, all day I have to inhale unkown substances being burned. I have had a tumor removed from my salive gland and currently hae one on my thyroid, both the product of second hand smoke. Illinois has a zero tolerance policy to smoking in prison and public facilities. I'm slowly being killed and Pinckneyville is lying about why, how and the number of drug related incidents at the facility are. In addition, the mail process is slow. The quality of the pictures are bad and where are my pictures being sent to/ desposed of. On top of that what happens of my photos after six months? How about IDOC officials try doing their jobs instead of creating conditions in an effort to further justify being lazy scumbahs. (11/6/2025)

1801. This is a damn joke. You all cant even do your jobs and now you want to take something from our families. IDOC is a joke (11/6/2025)

1802. This is a excuse for IDOC to tamper with our communications.
Im going through a grievance procedure right now because menard mail room officers are constantly sending my books back that i purchase from an approved publish company.
Its not the alledge drug issue's officers are bringing drugs into the facility, its more of an issue for the officers to use for a crutch.
Inmates are dieing in here because lack of health care support and medical attention not to mention theres no welfare checks being done and the camera would verify this (11/6/2025)

1803. This is a form of punishment. There should be things in pkace to orevent this from being an issue. Why should i have to be punished for #1 whar other inmates do, who arent the majority of inmates anyway and #2 punished because staff is either lazy or unprofessional and dont do thier jobs properly. If i get a handwritten letter from my granddaughter who is still learning to write and she draws me a picture. Im tokd i cant have that and keep it as a memory because of something i didnt do. That isnt fair or justice. (11/6/2025)

1804. This is a good idea. (11/6/2025)

1805. This is a great program i learn somthing every day thank you:) (11/6/2025)

1806. This is a inconvience to my family . (11/6/2025)

1807. This is a stupid way to respond to the drug problem that the facilities have as you all say!!! We already deal with lazy and nonchalant staff, now we have to deal with them scanning and processing our mail?! Laugh Out Loud- (11/6/2025)

1808. This has made certain things extremely difficult. Like for example, i needednmy mother to mail me a large package of medical information regaurding my heart conditions for a joe coleman release. I ended up having to fill out what i could, which i feel was inadequate, then send her what i had, so ahe could print my certificates from edovo and add them, plus all the recomendation letters for my release. It all takes time, and with my health condition that is something that i may not have. It did nothing to stem the flow of drugs into the facility, which is why i wrote up a proposal for a rehabilitation wing. One that would not cost the department any money. I actually found a way for it to be used to save the department money, but havent gotten a response. I am still advocating for it though, because i believe if administrastion would work with me, we could promote some positive change throughout the facility, and possibly be the model for the other facilities in the state. (11/6/2025)

1809. Think is illegal by federal law (11/6/2025)

1810. Think its a great idea because im tired of the smoking (11/6/2025)

1811. Think its no good an hard to use an takes 5 times longer to get mail in now should go back to the way it was (11/6/2025)

1812. This act of not allowing our actual mail in should be considered unconstitutional,these pieces of mail we receive from our loved ones such as,photos,greeting cards and books hold value to us,we have emotional attachments.Other states have tried same (11/6/2025)

1813. This Administration (BIG MUDDY RIVER CORR. CENTER) Located in Ina ,Illinois. Put out a memo out from Springfield stating that we were no longer able to recieve mail from the outside after 9-30-25. Now I had 80 Certified course certificates
sent before the 9-30-25 deadline and they were returned to the Christian advisor.
And no one can tell me why. EDOVO needs to come up with a way for to get our earned certificates,because this is not working for us down here. (11/6/2025)

1814. They should leave the mail like it is people like to get mail to come to the cells not on the tablet !!!!! (11/6/2025)

1815. They should let everything go back to regular (11/6/2025)

1816. They should not destroy our original copies of our mail after being scanned. We should have the option of sending our mail back home or letting it be destroyed. (11/6/2025)

1817. They should not stop our mail, because we need our mail, to go back to reflect on in later years. (11/6/2025)

1818. They should put all mail on the tablet,exept for letters from friends and family its not nessesary. (11/6/2025)

1819. Totalmente en desacuerdo. El IDOC quiere cambiar el modo de recivir correo sin fundamentos. IDOC dice que los individuos en custodia obtienen sustacias no controladas

(drogas) por medio del correo, mas sin embargo en realidad yo que vengo de Centralia C. C. se encontro quien accedia o metia esas sustancias no controladas llamadas drogas eran Oficiales Custodios conocidos como CO's o trabajadores voluntarios, y no se ha encontrado evidencia fisica en el correo que sontenga su demanda. (11/6/2025)

1820. These new mail rules are nothing more than additional ways for this department (IDOC) to control, degrade and dehumanized freedom impaired persons (inmates). It does little to stop drugs from coming into the facilities when the vast majority of it comes in through legal mail (or) department employees. (11/6/2025)

1821. These proposals will not stop contraband from coming into facilities, because let's be honest, the majority of the contraband is coming in through the officers. How do I know this? I've been incarcerated for over 26 years. I've seen just about everything theres is to see. Further more, these changes will only cause more distance between individuals in custody and their loved ones. Pictures hold a sentimental value that can't be captured on a 7" screen in black and white. What about catalogues from companies that we use to send gifts to family and friends? The Illinois department of "lock 'em up and throw away the key" has been on a decades long campaign designed to dehumanize and ensure recidivism stays high. There are no programs, officers engage in blatant shows of racism and white supremacy, inmates are beaten and killed by officers at clip higher than any other state prison system in this country just about. This taking of our mail is just another step along the way to turning IDOC into a true plantation. J.B. Pritzker is impotent governor. His attorney general is even worse and so is his IDOC director. Within months of you all taking our mail from us the drugs will not have stopped. The question then becomes will you reverse course? I doubt it. I'm going to make a prediction, IDOC is on a crash course, hurtling toward a violent explosion similar to what happened in Pontiac decades ago. I am not advocating for this nor would I wver participate in such a thing, but the truth is the truth. IDOC IS A POWDER KEG! And taking our mail is just pushing us closer to an abyss of violence that some people qon't escape with their lives. I just pray that I'm able to get home before it happens, and I pray that not too many lives are lost. But then again, one life would be too many. (11/6/2025)

1822. Well it does not matter to me because i do not get muchail. (11/6/2025)

1823. We want our mail passed out...! (11/6/2025)

1824. We want our mail simple as that (11/6/2025)

1825. We hate the way mail is being ran (11/6/2025)

1826. Why not allow individuals in custody to use any and all drugs, including nicotine and alcohol? Cocaine opioids and cannibas would only create an improved atmosphere in prison for everyone including prison staff. Any inmates (individuals in custody) who either become sick or unmanagable could be maintained in the usual manner. Health care is non existant at any rate in most prisons, so WHY NOT ALLOW IND. IN CUSTODY "SELF MEDICATION?" It makes ZERO sense to ban recreational drugs in any prison setting.
And yes I'm far superior to you, dear reader...in every sense.

Thanks for zero...nothing (11/6/2025)

1827. These changes are fucking stupid! Your staff is bringing that shit in on paper and you know this to be true. You found out one but what about the others. Soon you will see the veracity of these claims and the foolishness of your actions. Changing the mailing system will out those smelly culprits and bring this truth to light. What changes have been made in regards to staff coming in when they are the ones you have caught with these ""drugs""? Are we suffering because they are pumping drugs into our community captilizing off of our addictions and weaknesses. Is the money that good that will jeopardize their job for it? (11/6/2025)

1828. There's really no difference in the mailing system except that it all must come through vendors only if an Individual In Custody recieves publications and regular mail (non-publication) is digital (on the tablet) except for privileged and legal mail which basically still have its procedure maiing process. What a waste of change, "unless" I.D.O.C. is attempting to go digital and update its whole systems in I.D.O.C. as far as technology enhancement and/or usage? That can be the only change for better that's reasonable. Everything else is really a waste of time, energy and effort. (11/6/2025)

1829. I think it should (11/6/2025)

1830. I dont understand (11/6/2025)

1831. Why (11/6/2025)

1832. With all this new tectnalegy, I think there should and is room for updates on Appeal to the Appellate Courts and Posttrial motion forms, for instance the forms and filings could be as well as should be filled out and made on [Line] provided at all Illinois Correctional Center library's or on the New tablets provided to all inmates locked up, with option to Counsel or Pro se. (11/6/2025)

1833. This os bullshit an yall know it (11/6/2025)

1834. This is not going to stop this smoking, it's coming from the staff. One problem is here at centralia they don't punish them for smoking this stuff, it is a serious health hazard and should be treated as such! I think I have nerve damage from breathing it in. Give them a cellhouse of their own as you learn who they are-or- as many cellhouses as it takes to keep them away from us. When they go nuts from smoking this bug spray they put them right back in the cell and they do it again!!! It is probably the number one health hazard in this prison, please treat it as such! If they do send some to seg. for smoking this bug spray, they will put them in any open cell! We can't even get good health care, they spend all of their time with these smokers They should'nt even have jobs, they are dangerous and that gives them access to weapons! Our lives are in danger, this stuff is not K2-it is bug spray, poison and we are forced to breath it. Please work on disciplinary action and safety measures for those who don't smoke this stuff! I'm 66 years old and have'nt had a ticket in 24 years, why am I being forced to suffer. My celly is James Hopper, in his 50's and he feels the same as I do! We are suffering severe damage from this smoke, please take more action without delay!!! (11/6/2025)

1835. This is not going to work (11/6/2025)

1836. Can we or cant we get magazines with nudity as long as theres no penetration? There is alot of confusion and the mail room keeps refusing our magazines after weve already paid for them. (11/7/2025)

1837. According to the policy we are to recieve mail from the publisher, as in my bible study with lamp and light publishet, 226 Road 5577, Farmington NM 87402 USA, when we get our graded lessons at the end we recieve a certificate, i put that with the rest in a big yellow envelope along with all the other certificates ive recieved from them and all the classes, groups and programs through clinical services, school, voc. and mental health. Since this is coming from a approved publisher, can you let me know if i will recieve incoming mail, cause just the other day i got a copy on tablet from this publisher which should have been sent through. Thank you. (11/7/2025)

1838. Would like to be able to get my certificates mailed to me here in graham correctional center in hillsboro illinios so i can send them home to my brother (11/7/2025)

1839. Why haven't I got mail yet my family has written me and I have not recieved the letters yet can I please get my mail please and thank you. (11/7/2025)

1840. I would like it if we had more help (11/7/2025)

1841. Go back the same way. (11/7/2025)

1842. Can we please get anything, like penpal applications or order forms or other applications automatically printed out for us without having to send requests to printout? It slows the process and its obvious it needs to be filled out and mailed back. (11/7/2025)

1843. As far as the mail,I personally appreciate all individual authorities for combating the use of paper drugs. Legal mail and pictures shouldn't be included in this practice. (11/7/2025)

1844. I believe it was necessary to restrict incomming mail. Scanning seems a terrible answer versus relying on print services (both letters and pictures). That is just an opinion though. (11/7/2025)

1845. I dont like it. Or maybe it would be alright if we could keep our mail and photos on the tablet for as long as we wanted. Like we can delete them ourselves. (11/7/2025)

1846. The mail should be on the tablet the same day it makes it to the prison (11/7/2025)

1847. Only put mail from a home address on the tablet... and still allow us to receive mail from a company or school/outside program. (11/7/2025)

1848. I personally like the idea of my mail on my tablet. Its helpful also that we can have some

things printed out. I have some concerns and suggestions though. First there are already complaints, my cellmate yesterday got a scanned document but his letter was only half scanned. Policy is to throw away mail after its scanned so he cannot recover the rest of his letter. There should be a holding time for mail before its disposed in case of partial scanning. Our pictures can be printed out from companies like telepost or freeprints and sent but there seems to be no clear understanding of whether we can have those or if they get scanned. When we ask mailroom staff they say â€œwe dont know". More communication would be helpful between admin departments. Most of us as well as our families would benefit from a very clear and very precise plan of action where our mail is concerned and we would like to know for sure that we will recieve our full mail and within a reasonable time. This would also mean that the staff should be held to certain accountability factors and guidelines on how to do this job. When we dont get mail because complaints of understaffing its unfair to us and our families. This can be a problem, but one solution or suggestion could be to stagger the days off of mail staff so that mail can be scanned and uploaded on weekends going forward. Mostly people are okay with this, communication is our biggest issue and transparency comes second. Thanks for listening. (11/7/2025)

1849. I really don't know all of the new rules but if you're doing this now, why not also add pictures and the 30 second video messages? This suggesstion could possibly even lower the hundreds of mail articles coming in. (11/7/2025)

1850. I suggest setting up a folder to allow Individuals to permanently retain photos and letters of our choosing. Also, a scanning system that would allow us to convert our currently held photos/letters to that file. This would greatly reduce paper materials and photos currently held in cells. A fee of 5Â¢ or 10Â¢ per copy could cover the cost of the program and possibly even benefit the EBF or a local charity. Personally, I would convert ALL of my photos and personal documents to the tablet.
Enable our people to send letters and photos DIRECTLY to our tablets. This would eliminate all others issues. Content could still be screened and no further actions would be necessary. (11/7/2025)

1851. I think books you order and religion and spirituality like tarot cards need two come throug the mail not sand two property
(11/7/2025)

1852. I think we should be able to get our free print photos instead of having them put on our tablet just to have them deleted 6 months later (11/7/2025)

1853. I will like to be able to have pictures from my family and friends sent to me via mail and directly to my tablet, cutting out the middle man of freeprint, pelipost and others. When a code could be given to our loveones and the pictures can come direct from their facebook page or any social media page. And we the inmate pay the Illinois department of Corrections pennies for each download to the tablet. Remember alot of pennies turns to alot of dollars. (11/7/2025)

1854. All imates are not involved with drugs or whatever supposedly accused of getting through the mail.

Real Issues are not adressed. Due Process is total being violated by staff everyday and Grievance process is a total joke. Staff has been caught on so many time bring all kind of stuff but the public is not being notified about those incidents. Inmates mail in no way should be touched or so called screened by a untrust-worthy staff. (11/7/2025)

1855. I am not getting all of my letter scanned all the way. I am not receiving my religious materials from ministry\publisher. (11/7/2025)

1856. I dont really like getting mail this way id rather get my origanal copys from my loved ones them are our safekeeps and asking to have our letters printed off takes a long time to get (11/7/2025)

1857. I dont like to delay and the feeling from actually getting a real letter from loved ones (11/7/2025)

1858. i dont like it at all bc i would like to have my own mail. personal reason i would love to have a my picture (11/7/2025)

1859. I dont like it because its just slowing an already slow process down (11/7/2025)

1860. I dont like the mail on the tablet im not getting my mail they have to screen incoming mail and better shake down on visits and screen the c/o to stop all the contraband coming in to DOC (11/7/2025)

1861. I dont believe our mail and photos should be scanned because we have an emotional connection with the people who choose to write us and send us pics. Plus no one in their right mind would want their personal items destroyed. And where is the waiver giving IDOC the right to destroy anything of ours? (11/7/2025)

1862. I do not believe it is fair for me to be denied hands on access to my mail and publications and for my access to them and photos of my family to be restricted to tablets because tablet access is denied to persons placed in C Grade for disciplinary infractions and denial of mail and photos should not be a punishment except if related to substantial violations of prison rules. Under this policy we will placed on audio visual denial for extended periods and denied access to our tablets as a result thereby interferring substantially with our right to communication and freedom of expression guaranteed by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and by the Illinois Constitution. It also unduly inhibits our ability to act as parents while in custody by inteferring with our relationships with our children. This is so due to the impersonablness of mail being reduced to characters on a tablet or copies of a childs art rather than actual letters and drawings. The system is also unconstitutionally slow for it is taking this facility two months to post mail received here two months before the date it is placed on our tablet. (11/7/2025)

1863. I dont think that will be good because people who have their family send pictures wont be able to send any pictures and these tablets dont let us take pictures and send it to our family and love ones either. (11/7/2025)

1864. I feel its making mail even more delayed especially since the prison (logan correctional center) is already unstaffed and everything is behind.. I also dont like how its possible a memory/photo is on a screen and cant take with you or have in an album. If we are able to get staff it may be worth the change (11/7/2025)

1865. Being incarcerated for decades, and with the rise in chemical-laced paper, I argue that I am being made to suffer, as well as others, for something myself and others don't indulge in or with. Drugs in institutions is nothing new. However, when a small population of paper-smokers is allowed to dictate the what the administration deems as a solution, it delineates from those that are working towards rehabilitation.
My mail evokes psychological and emotional bonding to my family. Not being able to receive my physical mail is another layer of institutional trauma upon my personhood. (11/7/2025)

1866. Former sgt. Dewayne turner and current sgt dawson are examples of addicts that ironically have had and continue to have authoritative positions in the carceral system.
My family and friends that are 65+ have a difficult time with the adavnced technological phones, messaging system and live out of state or northwest of chicago. Therefore mail and cards were the best reminders for support. The mail room was already understaffed and over the last 12 years the Logan mailroom was seldomly dependable. It is worse now. My friend sent 5 birthday cards in august for my september birthday. I finally recieved 2 scanned in october.
Drugs are still a problem since the scanning system has been implemented.
There are still drugs in here psychotropics, saboxone, meth, k2 or roachkiller or whatever.
Nothing has changed except for cutting us off from our loved ones. (11/7/2025)

1867. I believe that i and those who are not involved with the contraband thats going on in the facilitys should be penalized i enjoy recieveing actual mail and pictures from my family and friends that i can hold on to for the remainder of my time incarcerated also if i needed personal paper and had a deadline why should i have to wait to recieve any paperwork i dont feel its right and that goes against our rights as inmates (11/7/2025)

1868. With this rule change it seems as if they are taking our individual liberties fir something that envolves the few we are labeled as individuals in custody and should be treated as such ive never been accused of nor have i ever been written up for drug use my mail has never come under scrutiney i want to have the original pictures my grand daughter has drawn if i violate any of such rules regarding mail then i shouldhave my mail stripped from me thank you for your time slater b29108 (11/7/2025)

1869. Where do I start. Well for 8 years now i have had somewhere between 60 to 65 envelopes and packages not arrive. Now with this system i am up to 5 just since the start. Meaning i have not recieved anything.
This is a false flag rule change base on little to no studies on it. It does not help conditions for inmate nor doc staff. If anything it make it worse because the many of us that are just doing our time want the things are family is sending us. Which not recieving puts us on edge and makes us made, upset, and for the most part more prone to do something stupid. Which is the problem other states see. Drugs still get in by visits or maybe even staff. So go back to the way it was and try to fix whatwas broken there firat before you go and spend more tax payers money on

something that will just fail in the long run. Thank you for listening. (11/7/2025)

1870. This is not going to stop drugs from coming into the institution as long as you allow c/o's to bring in containers of food that is not checked for contraband on a daily basis. Not too long ago a maintence supervisor was let go because he was bringing in drugs. As far as we can tell there was no prosecution?! (11/7/2025)

1871. We should get are mail in person it take idoc staff to long to give us mail on tablet (11/7/2025)

1872. Man this weak is hell we need paper to always have not no tblet then it go away after 6 months u neva know when u need stuff (11/7/2025)

1873. Illeagal
(11/7/2025)

1874. I feel that the changes far as pictures are not in our best intrest becuase most of us order our pictures from third party vendors and are sent from the company to the jail not to mention they stay on te tablet for 6months then are deleted which is a total waste of the little resources we have (11/7/2025)

1875. I had filed a motion and had received a copy from the courthouse and because it was not stamped legal it was opened and read. The clerks office is part of the legal system and any mail coming from the court house should automatically be considered legal especially if it contains motions and other sensitive information pertaining to ongoing investigations and open cases plus i need the physical documents for court i can not take the tablet with me. I also was extradited to Il from La and i had to throw away my jp6 tablet witch also had letters and pictures that i can not replace so those are real problems
(11/7/2025)

1876. Idoc and IC solutions is putting inmates mail on the tablet as well as pictures.This is suppose to slow down the drug problem. But my question is if I have my family to send me pictures from a vendor example(Free Print or Pellie Post)if the pictures are posted on the tablet then what happens to the main pictures. They say that you can as for a printout copies of the pictures but this does not example what happens the the main pictures that comes from the vendor. Do they throw them away? I think that anything that comes from a actual vendor a inmate should beable to get in the mail. Because it's coming from a vendor and not a family member or friend. Being that the vendor sends the product for you (11/7/2025)

1877. IDOC. Thinks that not letting us have our pictures and letters will help with there problem you think that scanning all our mail and pictures is a good idea its a stupid idea i have been gone over 15 years having my original mail makes me feel good then you are only keeping our mail on oyr tablets for 6 months what is the point of that? By doing this to the mail makes me angry. This is not right then you are destroying my mail and pictures. YOU KNOW THAT BY DOING DESTROYING MY MAIL WITHOUT MY PERMISSION IS A FEDERAL OFFENSE I STILL HAVE RIGHTS. You are only creating problems. The reason that you are

using to do this will never stop no matter how hard you try. This needs to go back to the way it was. Now i wont have any pictures of my kids sent in because i dont know where they will go you are having them dissapear and i dont know who wil look at them and where they are being stored at. YOU HAVE CREATED A BIG PROBLEM SO FIX IT. THERE WAS NEVER A PROBLEM WITH THE MAIL YOU CREATED THE PROBLEM. (11/7/2025)

1878. If mail comes str8 from the source like pictures why should they be scanned too the tablet still (11/7/2025)

1879. If the mail is coming from a place approved by the department inmates should get it the rest can be put on the tablet and if they wish for a copy they should be able to get it . but regarding the drugs i dont see hiw you can stop it they will always find a way they have for a very long time and i dont think the inmates that dont have nothing to do with it should be punished (11/7/2025)

1880. Im in Lawrence Correctional Center in Sumner, IL.. Since mail has been scanned on the tablets its been multiple problems... The 1st and most important problem is that mail is being scanned and uploaded to everybodies tablets with family, friends, & loved ones names, addresses, and pictures on them for the entire facility to view.. I recently had wrote a lawfirm "FeganScott LLC Attorneys at Law" in hopes of soliciting representation for a upcoming civil suit against the facility.. My responds letter from the lawfirm was open, read, and uploaded onto the tablet when i need the real copy to send to the U.S Supreme Court to prove that ive attempted to get representation on my own.. Its part of my 1983 civil suit process.. We were told that mail pictures, books, etc from publishers will be allowed into the facility but the pictures are still being uploaded to the tablet from freeprint & Pelipost. Most of us housed in Lawrence Correctional Center has 30years or better, 6months isnt nowhere near enough time to have our pictures and written letters.. We not able to get print outs of our tablet messages and they also only last 6months on the tablet.. We've been writing the mailroom, sending complaints to the Warden to no avail.. (11/7/2025)

1881. Im not a fan of how the mail is coming now. Especially photos and the fact that we cant get greeting cards sent in. Even through a company. (11/7/2025)

1882. Im not entirely positive on this matter but isnt it illegal to post someones legal mail on an un secure tablet? Even if it is i dont think thats right at all. Whats the point of implementing a rule of opening the mail in front of you if you post it by someone else for me to read online? This needs an immediate change. (11/7/2025)

1883. I'm not sure that doing this would keep drugs out of the prisons, and if this is the reasons for doing this then what happens when they see that i'm right and that drugs are still getting into the prisons? Also for all of us that get pictures sent in, our family like to tell us who people are by putting names on the back of the pictures but the backs are not being copied and sent to us why? (11/7/2025)

1884. I understand why they are doing this but it takes away from the personal touch of even getting a hand written letter (11/7/2025)

1885. Taking away the physical mail aspect takes the authenticity and emotional aspect from inmates (11/7/2025)

1886. We should get all of are mail, reading off the tablet is not the same as reading paper (11/7/2025)

1887. As an indivdual in custudy I believe that what you guy's are trying to do is great and all you forgot about one thing though. What about things that we get from are family that could be a keep sake, a memory, even just pictures, because if thats the only picture and its sent to someone on the inside you scan it and save it for six months. Now my family member dies and that was the last picture he was in, I would not be able to just send the picture home because it was destroyed. To help with that pending problem cause I promise it will be, allow for individuals in custudy to send pitcures, and things that are kept as memorys of loved ones passed on back home to our loved ones at our cost. I've lost some very close people resently and couldnt get nothing sent in for this reason alone. (11/7/2025)

1888. I don't like the idea of stopping use from getting our paper mail, it is the only tangible thing to hold on to.
I believe it is the beginning of stopping all personal contact, now mail, next visits. Making it more complicated for our family, friends and loved ones. Since COVID 19 epidemic, visits for our families has been more complicated, making resevation to come. Lockdown notice after they have traved hours to visit use miles away from our home. I believe its just another means to damage an already harmed famly structure. (11/7/2025)

1889. I dont like the fact that i wont be able to get my original pictures in the mail because they are something that helps me mentally and is also a setemintal things plus the fact that i along with other people IDOC has no reaspn to beleve we do anything illigal through the mail we should not have to suffer because of the few people that are sending stuff in that is my opionion as long as others i have spoke to about this situation thank you for taking the time to listen and read this comment!! (11/7/2025)

1890. I dont like it because some poeple like to have there mail with and not on the tablet i like to have me mail with me (11/7/2025)

1891. I don't like it. I like physical mail. When it is a birthday or a holiday especially because we get physical cards not a message card. (11/7/2025)

1892. I don't believe that IDOC should change the way that we get our mail. Because with them putting our mail and pictures on our tablet's it will only be on their for a short time. It not like us having our letters and pictures were we can always go back and read them or look at our pictures when their not on our tablets anymore. (11/7/2025)

1893. I disagree with what the prison is doing with the mail for a couple reasons. The first & most important, they want to make everything digital. I recently lost my father, now if he had sent me any mail, cards, letters, pictures even i would cherish them being in my posession. Now

what if my family was to send me an obituary and i could only view it on tablet. They destroy all mail after they scan it. That would be heartbreaking to me. I understand they have to really crack down on the mail because of the narcotics, however if they was to do their job right then it would be caught as soon as something was to be sent in. The officers here @ Logan CC have gotten lazy with mail & now everyone is punished. My mother caan no longer send me books she has read. Or bring them for visitor pick up. It has really became an inconvenience & hasnt really started just yet. Not to mention how long it takes to be scanned & posted. I know i have been waiting on poctures over a month now that have already arrived @ the facility. (11/7/2025)

1894. I believe there is nothing better than a handwritten letter from a loved one I do understand the safety and security concerns , I believe that issue effects a minority and not the majority to punish the majority for those that choose to manipulate the system is wrong and hope a middle ground can be found and accomplished maybe a punisment for those caught that would deter others from attempting it or a permenant ban on personal mail i.e all mail will be copied for offenders caught violating the rules.
(11/7/2025)

1895. I dont think the mail should stop sum ppl like the figure touch of they mail in they hand and alot of the older guys dont use they tablets as much cuz they can navgative it as well as other guys (11/7/2025)

1896. I dont think you all should strip us from mail privliges, only because we're already gone away from our loved ones and the personal, hand-written letter puts us closer am gives us a since of confort. (11/7/2025)

1897. I feel greeting cards and photo are items that are looked forward to having them physically within reach
(11/7/2025)

1898. I Feel It Should Not Be A Thing. Just Because We In Jail Dont Mean We Cant Still Have Cinamonal Vauled Things. (11/7/2025)

1899. I feel that its a safety for individuals in custody but also takes away the heartfelt, immediate intimacy between family & the individual in custody. (11/7/2025)

1900. I feel like they shouldnt send our pictures especially since they come from a organization pictures are really some of the only things we have left of family,friends who passed away (11/7/2025)

1901. I feel like there isnt a price on family pictures and to have that picture in your hand personally and not on an tablet helps me feel closer to home my family send pictures from FreePrints thats an private company I dont see how drugs is an issue with that family photos in your hand is pricless the tablet just makes them feel even farther away. (11/7/2025)

1902. When your in prison and you can recieve a peice of mail from a loved one or friend that they had taken the time to pour energy into be writing it it give a certain level of mental peace to

have that same paper and read it when you want. This electric mail that they only allow you to have access to for 6 months and only when the tablet has access to the very unreliable wifi here takes that personal bond away. Plus in my personal experiance the mail has been burry on the tablet and when a printed copy is requested the request goes unanswered and ignored (11/7/2025)

1903. This new mail conditions is inhuman ,becouse not only are we seperated from our love ones. Now we are being taken away the only tengible ,personal, & sentiment thing we wre able to have from them how is this able to jelp security since these rules been impliminted nothing of these concerns I.D.O.C. HAS hav yet to stop or slow anything down. (11/7/2025)

1904. Mail such as personal letters from loved ones helps us on the inside retain our humanity. To take something like a personal letter that my 77 year old mother took the time to write is truly dehumanizing and immoral. There has to better solutions to whatever is going on than to over react to political pressure. (11/7/2025)

1905. Id like to actually receive the mail that was actually TOUCHED by my Loved one who wrote it... (11/7/2025)

1906. I think we should definately be able to have our letters and pictures from our kids. Thats something thats a connection from a father to his child. Other than that i couldnt care less. (11/7/2025)

1907. i hate it because if i get a actual letter from family member and they die i dont have the actual letter i can keep for the rest of my life that came from them when they were alive.. i had dealt with people dying on me and it hurts when u cant have that letter or card i understand why they stopped it but still hate it. (11/7/2025)

1908. I like having my pictures in my hand because i can forever have them. On the tablet you can have the pictures but after 6 months or a year they disappear and i dont want that to happen i want to have them forever because if anyone close to me pass i want to have there picture to remember them i cant do that with the tablet because if they disappear how will i remember them. (11/7/2025)

1909. I personally feel that this new mail system takes away a lot of the emotional feeling i usually get when i receive the actual letter, card or pictures. I wish that there was some other way to fix the problem, like some kind of scanning process for detecting what seems to be the cause of this. I hope in the near future that there will be a new system in place so that we incarcerated people can get our actual mail again and get to feel the true emotions that one is supposed to feel about receiving mail from loved ones. Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion and i hope you take it to heart. Again thank you for your time. (11/7/2025)

1910. I strongly disagree with this decusion. A letter from mt loved ones mean a lot to me and I want to be able to read them whenever I want and also be able to let them see I saved their letters and that them sending me letters meant a great deal to me. Why am I being punushed for something I did not do. (11/7/2025)

1911. I thank that its not very fair be cuase it does not let you have physical mail in are hands and pictures of are faimly. (11/7/2025)

1912. I think inmates should still get their mail in person because when family send birthday cards or letters or whatever it may be we want to keep it. The things we get is from family and friends is special and you take that away from everyone its going to cause alot of issues with mental health and much more. Everyone shouldnt be punished because of a certain group of people
(11/7/2025)

1913. I understand the issue but do not like the compromise. What if it was a letter from my grandmother and then she passes the next day? That would be her last conversation to me and i would not have that sentimental letter. Same with pictures and things like that. Would like the stuff to be scanned and reprinted if possible. (11/7/2025)

1914. I understand the mail situation, but to have and hold actual mail from loved one may seem like the only physical connection we have from loved ones, especilly when they pass and all we have are their letters. Corrections should invest in better ways to detect illigal substances without taking our mail/publications. (11/7/2025)

1915. I wish i could have the real paper letters for my father and my girl so i could smell her purfume (11/7/2025)

1916. I had mail sent here and i still havent got it yet. (11/7/2025)

1917. All mail on tablet says UNKNOWN. NO way to know whats from who without opening all of them till you find it. (11/7/2025)

1918. As one who aggressively protects individuals in custody civil rights because we have so few to begin with, you set great precedent for what should follow from the Dept. of Corrections. Please address the issue regarding individuals receiving copies of mail from the mailroom as often these same letters are critical to have in familial and legal correspondence. Good job! ;-) (11/7/2025)

1919. Are mail is always backed up every time my family sends mail.i dont revice it at all or months later they dont have the app sent up for us to requesr to print off the mail that ia scand yet and the mail only last so long on the tablet we lose all real letters photos and any other mail are allowed to recive i feel this mail scan is do to mail room stuff being lazy not drugs we are still not getting are mail in a manly time fram at all i feel that we should have the rights to are mail as we would if we werw not locked up i feel this mail scan is not working and not goong to work (11/7/2025)

1920. I am in danville corrections, the mail process that is going on here is not working i had a letter sent to me and didnt recieve it for almost three weeks and then there are other people here saying they are taking there pictures and putting them on the tablet when they are coming from freeprint and not coming staright from family. (11/7/2025)

1921. I dont think some of us inmates should have our pictures be put on our tablets because we are using a company called FreePrint to have our pictures sent to us . And by us using this company FreePrint knowingly they are not sending drugs in through the mail/pictures thats are being sent to indiviuals on the inside. (11/7/2025)

1922. I dont like the new mail policy at all. It takes way to long to recieve my mail plus i dont know what they did with the orignal copy. I would like to have the orignal copy it mean a lot more in its harder to read the mail on the tablet (11/7/2025)

1923. They have refused to give me a book from a bible study i do because it was hard back. It was new and religious tool for me to use and im not the only this has happened to so i think what their tyring to do is wrong because if they get away with it what else can they get away with. (11/7/2025)

1924. The photos are nice but getting a print out is impossible (11/7/2025)

1925. Only concern is there needs to be a way to get copies of pictures (11/7/2025)

1926. People are receiving other inmates pictures and mail.This is dangerous. (11/7/2025)

1927. I think getting our mail on our tablets isnt very well thought out. The mail room at Logan Correctional Center is not equiped with the correct manpower for this implemenation/change. Personally i have not received mail since the end of July. I know my pictures, my transcripts from high school & other mail has not been given to me. My pictures were here way before this was implemented & ive never gotten any mail on my tablet. (11/7/2025)

1928. I understand prison officials have a jobe to do but i don't believe it's fair to punish everyone for what some people participate in. My birthday was in september an i have yet to receive birthday cards that i know have been sent to me. Other mail with the name of some kind of corporation comes in immediately while i'm still waiting on personal mail from loved ones and i don't know why it's taking so long. It's not fair. (11/7/2025)

1929. I dont care either way. (11/7/2025)

1930. Have not gotten use to the system yet, still look for the mailpolice each day. (11/7/2025)

1931. I believe our mail should giving to us an not put on tablets (11/7/2025)

1932. I disagree (11/7/2025)

1933. Bogus (11/7/2025)

1934. I hate this new mail policy (11/7/2025)

1935. It takes to long this way (11/7/2025)

1936. No. Physical mail should return. Digital mail is no good! (11/7/2025)

1937. Stupid (11/7/2025)

1938. Stupid. Ineffective. Let Natural Selection Occur. (11/7/2025)

1939. Sucks (11/7/2025)

1940. Its ok (11/7/2025)

1941. I think its a good thing the mail is on the tablet. Thanks (11/7/2025)

1942. I think its a great idea or plan for the simple fact that harmfull things may be smuggled into a facilty and for my safety im glad that this has been put into place all over in illinois facilty thank you. (11/7/2025)

1943. Electronic,copying,and incoming mail processing is horrible... (11/7/2025)

1944. Goodmorning i find the changes to the mail process to be a envasion into privacy also I see it as being illegal. According to the law no one should be able to infrige upon another persons mail as its seen as fraud. There is multiple different remedies for any wrong doing with accordence to mail procedures. (11/7/2025)

1945. Having worked and lived in an enviroment filled with K2, roach spray, and whatever else these guys can light up I applaud the new mail policy as there is a remarkable reduction in drugs around here in Dixon. Im tired of the headaches every day from being exposed to this and so is the staff. Director Hughs is spot on with her implementation of this new policy. Thank you seriously...thank you (11/7/2025)

1946. Holding peoples mail is not a good idea. It will just create chaos, and more work for the mailroom personel and the law library, who have enough to do. (11/7/2025)

1947. I Dont Really Feel That Changeing Our Mail Would Make Any Diffrence And I Feel That It Would Make Things Way Worse Because Of The Way We Expect Things To Come Through For Us And Tha Fact That Their Changeing The Way Things Are comeing Isnt Right We All Know Its alot Going On With Incoming Mail But That Shouldnt Effect Everyone (11/7/2025)

1948. I dont like the mail change.A few bad apples has messed things up for everyone else.But now that its so called affecting the staff they want to take action.Well we/I are still being affected everyday still bye whats been coming in through the mail. (11/7/2025)

1949. I don't like the changes done to mail. (11/7/2025)

1950. I do mot loke mot having the original physical mail as sent; however I do recognize and

firmly agree with the idea of keeping durhs out of the facilities. I hate having to share a room with someone who smokes and endanhersy health. Not to mention that these cells have neen deemed too small for two person occupancy at about 38 square feet for two people opposed to the 63 square feet ruled acceptable by the courts. (11/7/2025)

1951. I cant think of a single program that IDOC runs in an efficient, effective manner. The rules are enforced in an arbitrary, capricious manner. Only rules that ristrict or deny prisoners some right or liberty are enforced. (11/7/2025)

1952. I feel like its crazy not right and.not fair.thats all we had to look foward to. (11/7/2025)

1953. I feel like the new mail change is good because its safer for everyone but at the same time the wait is crazy our mail takes up to 2-3 weeks witch isnt a fair wait (11/7/2025)

1954. I believe the safey of staff and IIC are very important, its just sad that a IIC could'nt complain about exposure because they would have been accused of using (Smoking). So changing he mail policy isnt such a bad thing however; what happens when nothing changes? When the smoking continues? (11/7/2025)

1955. I feel like u guys r grasping at straws trying ur best to retain full control but essentially all ur doing is creating more work for urselves personally i find it amusing i mean ive heard the rumors its really co's who really bring in 85% of the drugs to sell to inmates but u do it for 2 reasons 1. Money.
Money is the root of all evil after all.
2.u want to orchestrate overdoses cause in most minimums and mediums at least 80% of the inmates r sex offenders so u want to cut down on the population cant say i blame u its pretty genius actually i tip my hat to u guys who sell to inmates (11/7/2025)

1956. I feel like it should change back an more security should just be done on mail an higher technology should be put more into it. Getting mail from your loved ones , spouse , mother father etc as always been a top thing in jail we have older family memebers who isnt that advance with technology or doesnt know how to use certain apps or download things all they know is to send letters write mail etc. I understand the prisons want to make it safer for their prisons an their fellow C.O's Lt. Sgt. An etc an the indiviuals in custody but there should be more things put into the jails around to stop whatever is coming in to harm the people in custody an the employees here. I believe more thought should be put into it instead of completely stopping incoming mail. I feel IDOC should have better system to detect whatever it is that made paper mail stop coming in.
(11/7/2025)

1957. You wonder in excess if your thoughts or comments about something actually means something. But for me i think it does and it can make changes, if given the means and motives. With this mail change comes an entire load of problems that the IDOC did not forsee. Such as the proces of processing the mail and getting it copied, creating the files for each and every individual that is incarcerated in such prison and getting that digital copy to said Individual in Custody. However, there lies the problem. There are too many people in prison and this creates a

problem. We out number the staff and the mail room people cannot keep up with the constant flux of mail coming everyday. To change is to damn the system. (11/7/2025)

1958. This should be illegal .. We should be able to recieve Regular mail ... (11/7/2025)

1959. Not good (11/7/2025)

1960. The drug come through the guards, not the mail. (11/7/2025)

1961. Esta vien recivir el correo en la tableta (11/7/2025)

1962. To each is on. Meaning you have to put youself in the shoes of others to understand the safety of both the individual in custody and the employees. Im fine with it because my health matters. (11/7/2025)

1963. This isnt law abiding (11/7/2025)

1964. This is a inconvience in receiving pictures (11/7/2025)

1965. Negative experience. Dont like it (11/7/2025)

1966. Me parece bien que corten el venir the esos papeles paren de entrar, por que yo no fumo. (11/7/2025)

1967. Mail should come like it have always. (11/7/2025)

1968. Mail should go back how it was before its too complicated now (11/7/2025)

1969. Just because the facilities cant control what these people are smoking its not everybody faults. Meanwhile they take the mail away and these inmates still getting high (11/7/2025)

1970. Keep the mail as is. (11/7/2025)

1971. It is alot safer to have the mail rule (11/7/2025)

1972. I would perfer real mail (11/7/2025)

1973. I want my reagler mail not no scan shit (11/7/2025)

1974. I think it's good the way the mail is being handled. I don't support the life style of those who do drugs. One of the things that needs to be taken care of is that when IDOC takes pictures of the mail, personal pictures, and but not limited to cards. The picture of the said mail should include the whole piece of mail in the picture. Other than that I think it's a great idea. Plus I think the legal mail should be checked on but in a timely manner. (11/7/2025)

1975. I think its not right we not getting our mail its taking the value away... (11/7/2025)

1976. I think doing the mail on the tablets is a good thing (11/7/2025)

1977. I object to the rule changes to mail and these changes infringed both Federal and State Constitutional rights as well as inalienable rights and restrictions will not hold up under the color of law. (11/7/2025)

1978. I feel that when it comes to our mail or reading material we should recieve it quickly instead of waiting for a week or a few weeks because of staff want to be lazy and not do their job properly such as making sure everyone is safe by making 15 minute rounds through the wings instead of allowing the rules and regulations be violated by both staff and inmates....like there should be treatment class's/groups on abuse cycle:verbal,sexual,emotional,mental,and physical abuse that people do everyday by manipulating people:using their size or gang rank or bribing to get what they want... (11/7/2025)

1979. I feel the mail should stay the way it was because idoc cant keep up with scanning mail in they been sending people mail to the wrong person every since they been scanning the mail.there are inmates with sex cases that can possibly get a hold to my kids picture do to idoc scanning mail in not knowing what they are doing (11/7/2025)

1980. I fully understand why its been done but i cant as of yet say that its done anything to prevent substance from entering the facility. Also, we were told that we would be able to recieve copies of our mail by submitting request but as of yet i still havent recieved one.. And have asked for several (11/7/2025)

1981. I have read several resources about the drug issue in prisons. I dont believe that it is possible for someone to overdose just by handling treated paper, the science just isnt there to support it. I understand the need to do something but punishing everyone in this way when not everyone is doing the drugs is unconstitutional which is why the bill that was submitted to make the mail scanning legal has not yet passed in the house or senate. Also it is well documented that mail bans/scanning have failed ti curb the availability of these drugs in all the states where such policies were implemented. (11/7/2025)

1982. I have read the changes about the mail and i think thats good for everyone staff and individuals in custody but i believe that it would be better if you could give the option to each individual to if(he/she)choose to be able to send her/his mail back(in a reasonal time maybe 30 to 45 days) after you recieved their mail because i may want to keep a photo or card that my kid or granchild did for me or it could something more important like birth certificate you know something that we may consider very special or/and important to us.as for the publications is okey to be able to get them from the source/company because i believe that it will help us all to be a lot safer and that will help stop all the stuff that the institution is worry about and that put all of us in real danger. (11/7/2025)

1983. I like change but the must support the individual in custody not hinder him. (11/7/2025)

1984. I think by doing the mail like this its things i need to do buy now i cant because we cant get mail in (11/7/2025)

1985. I think if the inmates abuse the mail they deserve what they get (11/7/2025)

1986. I think it a good thing as long it does'nt impinge or restrict first amendment.. We know it will at times but IDOC must own that and not try spin it like every response to grievence that benefit the prison or staff.we must have equal accountability and equal protection of the ,something we never had it just appears that way when one is looking from the out side into this ,prison life,the systemic corruption and physical abuses sexual and none to often are suppressed by staff.to your point the new system sound good in theory but it wont stop the drugs because most drugs enter prisons by corrupt staff.if you want to know how drugs make it in ,look at the most hated co and rank officers. Fixthat and u fix the problem.once the new system is in place it will bringout what im saying, how is it that drug still continue to poor in more then ever. Every state who went digital drugs increased in their prisons (11/7/2025)

1987. I think it' good that the mail is bing put on the tablets. Just don't take all day to get the mail to us. (11/7/2025)

1988. I think it is a good idea and it keeps every one safe and still alows us to be provided with mail from are loved ones so i agree with the new mail system and i am just one voice but i believe it will be a hug game changer in advancing tecnoligy so i support the change and i have seen the benifits from it by the looks of things keep up the good work and thank you for your hard work
(11/7/2025)

1989. I think it is a good idea but wish they were faster about getting the mail caught up to us as i am still waiting for mail from over a month ago (11/7/2025)

1990. I think it is wrong bcause mail is a federal brand and its up yo them to stop whatever is going on. Plus, how is it that we only have a right to keep our pictures for only 6 months? What if our family member, parents, grandparents, children, friends ect. pass away and we dont havr any reflections to reminisce about because these people have taken our pictures. Its not right and they shoild have kept the old way (11/7/2025)

1991. I think its crazy that now the mail comes on the tablet now because ive gotten someone elses mail a couple times. So i can just imagone if someone got my familys address or pictures of my kids.. (11/7/2025)

1992. I think its stupid cuz we all enjoy getting mail from our people from the outside with out having to read it on the tablet. And if we want to keep the originl copy we can instead of asking for a print off (11/7/2025)

1993. I think its stupid we should keep are mail like it was (11/7/2025)

1994. I think mail should be allowed through the facility after being checked the scanning process takes too long and sometimes isnt completed correctly. At times we dont receive it either. im still waiting on cards that were sent to me in the begining of october. (11/7/2025)

1995. I think that all mail should be able to be received by inmates. (11/7/2025)

1996. I think that this is so uncalled for, because not ONE of the employees who CLAIMED that they were exposed to a drug from the mail tested positive all were negative for exposure. It is not bad enough that the mail is 2 weeks behind now it will be so much worse. Also it is a well known fact that the contraband (drugs or cell phones) are being brought in by staff not by our family during visits or through the mail or by drone! (11/7/2025)

1997. I think this is a terrible idea, fir a plethira of reasons. (11/7/2025)

1998. I think this is horrible. I want to hold my pictures and cards my family sends to me. Also there is no proof of any cpntraband coming in through the mail. Plus this has not yet been voted on and became a law. Mail is also extremely slow due to this. (11/7/2025)

1999. I think we should be able get pictures and things from a reputable publisher or distributor or school. Im ok with scanned letters and cards as long as the original is put into a personal property box to be kept til release. I think the departmen should find new ways to check or scan for contraband but the mail isnt the primary source of introducing illegal items its the officers and nurses (11/7/2025)

2000. I think you should keep giving us the mail (11/7/2025)

2001. I understand the reason why the mail change and i dont think its right because everyone isnt using the mail to get drugs in id rather read and see my pics in person instead of on the tablet but whatever is best is whats best if it keeps the drugs out then so be it it needs too be done (11/7/2025)

2002. I understand why you guys are taking the procedures you are taking as far as how the mail is being distributed to us now. I just feel like all shouldnt be punished due to a few peoples actions (11/7/2025)

2003. I wish mail could go back to the way it was with us getting are books and everything the way we was because it making it hard on love ones who really cant use the online things to send us stuff (11/7/2025)

2004. I would like for them to give us our mail personally. I have mail from the P.R.B that i had ti receive on my tablet and didnt know it was there. I also have pictures that i didnt receive. (11/7/2025)

2005. I wish mail could go back to the way it was with us getting are books and everything the way we was because it making it hard on love ones who really cant use the online things to send us stuff (11/7/2025)

2006. Ok (11/7/2025)

2007. Cool (11/7/2025)

2008. Ok (11/7/2025)

2009. Its about our family pictures. Pictures are scanned and only available for a limited time on our tablets. Scanned mail will be printed on high quality paper. Will the pictures be printed on copy paper or glossy picture paper? Is there a way to have the pictures stay on our tablets if the only other option is a picture on copy paper? (11/8/2025)

2010. I want to know why our family pictures cant be recieved (11/8/2025)

2011. I think there should be a noticifaction weather or not yoy may return the mail after its been scaned , or does it get thrown away as soon as its scaned?
How does this work? (11/8/2025)

2012. Trying get better answer why it change (11/8/2025)

2013. The new mail system is ok but I would've like to have the option of recieving the original copy of my mail butbI understand the need for scaning mail (11/8/2025)

2014. The mail change is bogus because the quality is trash. They are scan pictures that comes feom our family when its easier to let our family send pics straight to our tablet threw the messaging app on our tablets threw corrlinks. Its dumb n time consuming n just complicating something simple (11/8/2025)

2015. So there needs to be a indefinate way to veiw our mail some cards and letters is our timless sanity like a archive or flash drive memory stic formated for our tablet or a specifc viewer the restrictions that are currently placed are extream yet some what nessasary now uless you check every licenes attorny by the states bar exam your in every day you will have fraudulent mail that could be potentialy hazerdous same with chemicals in side the facility or all officers every day all out side liquids and objects form tbe same potential threat the criminal mind can form pot cocaine meth into containers liquids and all types of things no matter the extent you go thru you will have potential threat and to those you stop who survie off of the sale or distribution yoj get threats outside of the facility gang and people who are in the buisness of threat death you will not scare or deture this type of individual most will never go home so what can you take from them (11/8/2025)

2016. Scan the mail give us the original pictures (11/8/2025)

2017. Pictures from known publications as in peli post and free prints should still come in because pictures are ""being printed but delayd"" and also some of us incarcerated have to watch our kids grow up through pictures and the idoc department program automaticly delete thee pictures on the tablet after 6 months pleas take into consideration pleas and thank you

(11/8/2025)

2018. My thought on the propose mail change is that they should actually keep it as it as in we get our mail regularly thru the mail our pictures,cards,letters,cause it want start any problems at the facilities that we reside at until we leave to go home. (11/8/2025)

2019. My only concern as of now is i would like us to remain able to have the original copies of our photos. That is the only way i can watch and keep track of the growth of my children and family. (11/8/2025)

2020. Mail changes; the Illinos department of corrections shall permit individuals in custody due process in allowing them to send original mail back home at the department expense.
The IDOC should implement a family reunion program like its sister State of New york.
(11/8/2025)

2021. its a hassel getting your mail when it is published by publishers.their should be away that we can get all are mail when it comes (11/8/2025)

2022. Im confused on why Im hindered from proper mailing proceedures when i did not abuse the system. Im not even allowed calendars now. I think there should be a better system to scan for drugs such as the GARDIAN machine thats used on the border in order to check for chemical compounds. (11/8/2025)

2023. If the person has been caught with any controlled substance should be subject to some form of scrunity when it comes to that paticular person mail (11/8/2025)

2024. If an indivuals postal mail gets returned due to any delivering issues, the contents of that letter should also be returned to individual in custody. (Mine was scanned and put on talet, unable for me to fix address and resend; letter & photo will now not be redelivered)
All photos coming in from an actual company (free prints, etc) should also be given to individual in custody, since it was only handled by "publisher"
Thank you for your time and consideration
(11/8/2025)

2025. I think it would be nice to actually have mail printed off once we submit a request to have the mail printed off because i received tax paperwork that actually has to be physically filled out. I submitted a request to have the forms printed off here at Robinson Correctional Center back on October 22nd and ive yet to hear from anyone or get my papers printed. Please help me to have them printed, thank you. (11/8/2025)

2026. I like to have my mail in my tablet. This is going to help with the elimanate of the unknown drugs. Also, I think a better option could be that we can have a email address so we can send /receive email. (11/8/2025)

2027. I say that photos printed by vendors (such as Freeprints, Amazon, ShutterFly) and other vendors where Individuals in Custody can order from should be given directly to the person to

whom they were sent AFTER inspection for any contraband. There is no way any major vendor would put their business and representation at risk to sending it items laced with foreign substances. (11/8/2025)

2028. I say photos from vendors (those who do n (11/8/2025)

2029. I feel like when the mailroom scan the documents they should print them out and deliver a physical, tangible copy to the individual in custody because when I request copies I never receive them and its been at least a month since this program started. (11/8/2025)

2030. I beleive the proposed element is reasonable however, suggestions to changes would be the following.
(1) family should be still allowed to drop off publications, where contents would go through the same screening process as any other incoming mail incoming mail will be (a) being physically inspected by mail room/ idoc staff, (b) being scanned by fluorecent or other scanning mechanisims, then if the publication is appropriate & surpasses such screenig forwarded to indivicual in custody.
This would allow persons to still be able to recieve publications not brand new (which may prevent individuals financially disadtvantaged rom being able to otherwise recieve them) so long as they pass security measures intended to prevent drugs/ contraband entering into facility.
Also, i beleive that any publications such as photos coming in from manufacturers or companys such as : freeprints, pellypost, shutterfly, & or others should be forwarded straight to individual in custody as long as photos meet idoc guidlines, & also scanned so that individuals are allowed access to physical or digital copies. (Particularly idoc, may find itself liable via class action or individual claims of mail access issues not only to photos but other items of nial, where individuals only have limited ccess to these mail items when there are solely digitized, as tablets have accessability restrictions).
Also, i would like to make a specfic comment seperately regarding the instant messages, instant messages would be extremely beneficial for the individuals in custody, as well as there family, particularly alllowing ones in custody immediate access to correspond & communicate with family, loved ones, etc immediately when those individuals are at work, going through emergencys, etc & are unable to answer phones. Further examples such as conflicting schedules where, individuals in custody work & family also work & calls may be extremely limited because of conflicts in schedule, or situations where individuals in custody may call & not get ahold of loved ones for a host of different reasons, yet loved ones need indiviauls to call them back immediately they could be able to send texts to notify individual in custody to call back for example. (11/8/2025)

2031. We should have the ability to press a botton from our tablet to photocopy mail we need and tell us the process and charges being applied... Thank You (11/8/2025)

2032. When mail is scanned onto the tablets it would be nice to be able to know whom the mail is from because all we see before downloading is ""unknown"" when i go looking for a particular piece if mail i have to open every entry because its not identified. According to the video each piece of mail is identified by the sender but not true for us its very time consuming opening every piece of mail just to get to the one piece of mail im looking for. Even if there was an

option where we could type the senders name that would be great. (11/8/2025)

2033. When it comes to the pictures,our family and friends should be allowed to send us pictures right to our tablets.When u go to the email app there is also a picture app,why not allow us to use it? (11/8/2025)

2034. Will our pictures expire like our regular mail on the tablets? There has been lots of talk about a possible timer for both. I would like it if we had the option to keep the pictures and mail on the tablet with a save option and keep the rest on a timer that are not selected under a save option. Lots of people here would agree to this choice. (11/8/2025)

2035. Unfortunatly, when fÃ mily sends photos from home it can take up to 3-4 weeks to receive the copies fron the mail room. We were told the copies would be printed on high quality paper and in color. THIS IS NOT TRUE!!!!!!!!!!! The copies are simple photo copies on regular priÃ±ter paoer. The same used in the law library to send individuals copies when requested. Further more man6 people have had his mail sent to multiple tÃ blets including photos. This is problematic because their are sex offenders aÃ±d just generally bad people who will try to weaponize these mistakes to use against others.
I fully support trying to rid our institutions of drugs and allow this environment to be as safe as possible, but at what cost????????? (11/8/2025)

2036. Their mishandling the copying of mail I recieved someone else mail on my tablet, the copying of photos are without care there bunched up sometimes three to one page, and lastly we dont want our mail to get taken off whenever we refreshed because mine did. (11/8/2025)

2037. The system as it exists today is already broken. I got 2 mail items scanned. Both said religious education material on the envelope, which should not be scanned but delivered. Both took over a month to get to me. I need hard copies of both, and there is currently no way to print. So, how can I say i agree to a law where the time frame of delivery is "prompt" when 30+ days is the current standard. At this rate, ill get christmas card scans in February. Honestly, im not the sort of IIC who talks about taking legal action against IDOC (lots of IICs are), but mail is so frustrating that it may finally push me over the edge. Stop punishing EVERYONE for one person's stupidity. Get metal detectors and drug sniffing dogs rather than punishing all of IDOC. Most of us follow the rules, and yet we are made to suffer for the dumb things a small group of IICs do. I just want my mail, and promptly/timely means within a week, not a month. If you have to scan mail, set up dedicated printers in every RU to allow us to print and get the hardcopy from the house sgts. Fix the current system. (11/8/2025)

2038. The process slows down an already slow process (11/8/2025)

2039. The pictures and letters are blury and they put all the pictures side by side instead of one by one (11/8/2025)

2040. The newbmail service is slow (11/8/2025)

2041. The new mail policy is Fucked up and nobody get a physical copy of documents they

need or want. (11/8/2025)

2042. That act strictens us from a liberty interest. (11/8/2025)

2043. Personal information that does not belong in anyones possession other than mine are being but on a tablet that can be hacked and we do not trust staff when they say they are keeping all of our mail stored. Stored where anyone working in the mailroom or anywhere else can go through our personal information like bank accounts, any mail from Gov. Officials, which these entities should be included in approved mail to be received. Pictures are held and put on a tablet which to me is ridiculous as copies from these people take forever. This whole system of putting the mail on the tablet is ridiculous and I have been locked up 40 years and you will NEVER stop contraband as long as you have people working in prisons. Money could be better spent on programming, even better cable to keep people busy instead of idle and looking to get high. Idle minds are the devils playground. (11/8/2025)

2044. Our pictures from pelipost or freeprints should not be copied they are from an professional company (11/8/2025)

2045. Our mail room is not fully scanning our mail espeacially mail that comes from a college. We are only getting half scanned mail. And not receieving copies when requested. (11/8/2025)

2046. MY FAMILY SEND MY SOME PHOTO AND I HAVE NOT GOT THEM I FEEL THAT I STOP US FROM BEING ARE BEST . (11/8/2025)

2047. My family and friends cant afford smart phones to download freeprint. An other people can get their photos but, i cant get my photos if they aint from freeprint but on my tablet for 6 months. Thats not right (11/8/2025)

2048. My biggest concern is I have a claim going through the Veterans Administration. When paperwork comes through from them I need the actual physical copies. A scanned copy does me no good. So, that is my one main concern. Thanks (11/8/2025)

2049. It sucks because now i have written a kite (exactly as bulletin instructed) to get photos copied over a week ago and still have not recieved my copies. (11/8/2025)

2050. Its all bullshit! How is it that my family sends me some pictures ill only have access to them for six months!?! (11/8/2025)

2051. It is affecting my leagal mail amd also im not receiving my mail for 2 months or longer after it arrivrs it is not the same to get a digital copy of a birthday card or pictures from my grandchildren it is not personal (11/8/2025)

2052. If you know who it is getting sprayed mail (drugs) into IDOC then why punish everyone by the facility not stopping those individuals in custody (Inmates) everyone else like me struggle with the mail the way it is now other people are receiving other people legal mail and non legal mail and we dont know when it gets here but i havent recieved all my mail since the transition im

missing letters from loved ones school work through the mail and the warden and every other staff say they cant help with the problem of not reciving scanned or non scanned mail (11/8/2025)

2053. If mail was a privledge,then it would make sence for inmates to recieve mail on a tablet to avoid rule breaking situations and infractions. I was under the impression that mail was a right and it's definately anything less than unfair to take away a persons right because someone else is breaking the rules or law. The consequences is suppose to effect the rule breakers in a severe way that it convinces others not to commit the same offense. The individuals who see that it also effects others as well as not caring on how it it can make it difficult for themselves. Taking a right from others for the ones who choose not to comply doesn't solve the problem,it just seems to make new ones. (11/8/2025)

2054. I think this is wrong towards our rights as american citizens just because some people abuse system doesnt mean everyones rights should be stripped away from them. Some people in free world abuse mail system but there. Rights are not taken from them (11/8/2025)

2055. I think the rules for mail are wrong because it makes it harder to work on clemency. It takea away the sentimental material we need regarding having physical pictures. (11/8/2025)

2056. I think not having mail is stupid and is going to cause more probs the good (11/8/2025)

2057. I think it is unacceptable to make a large change to a system without data to back up the reasoning for the decision. What are the statistics of contraband coming into facilities? This information is lacking. There is not enough staff or resources to make this change feasible. This is going to make the proces of receiving mail much harder for individuals in custody. Also, this breaks the only connection many people have to their families. I would be interested to see how the data differs between th men and womens facilities. I hope data is being collected to see how this is affecting the speed abd accuracy of the mail system. But since data wasnt collected originally, i doubt it is now. (11/8/2025)

2058. Unless robots deal directly with people in custody drugs will never stop. Changing the mail process is unfair to the ones that doesn't involve themselves in wrong doing in custody. (11/8/2025)

2059. You reap what you sow some of thrse guys dont have any sense one screws up we all have to be punished (11/8/2025)

2060. I realy wish yall would reconsider this cause some families are not very familar with shoping online so they go to stores like walmart and purches books pichers, ect that way to send to us (11/8/2025)

2061. I have two concerns: 1) The requirement that publications not be altered in any way serves to limit what individuals can receive, beyond the stated intent of the proposal. Specifically, there are some adult magazines that have a few pages of "penetration" photos in them, which would cause the magazine to be disapproved even though most of the pictures are

non-penetration. If I can get a bookseller to remove those photos, the magazine would be approved, and I've done that under the current/previous rules. Now, though, the magazine would be rejected as altered. 2) The requirement (if I'm reading it right) that EVERY book that isn't already on a statewide list as approved must be examined by a Publication Review employee, rather than only by mailroom staff, is unduly burdensome. There are a gazillion books, mostly harmless, that individuals can try to get, and almost all of them would not appear on the list, simply because no one in custody had tried to get a copy of it yet. There will be a small, limited number of staff who can be assigned to review publications, and they will quickly become overwhelmed by the numbers of incoming publications, meaning publications will pile up & up & up higher and higher, until individuals will have to wait many, many months to get anything. Here's a possible solution: I am an Interstate Compact transfer inmate, from Virginia. In the Virginia DOC, there is only a list of Disapproved Publications, not of things that ARE approved. If something is on the list, inmates can't have it, but for anything else, the inmate gets it unless sonething about it attracts staff attention, and then it gets reviewed. Your proposal seems to say that ALL incoming publications that haven't already been approved must be checked intensively, and that's what will cause the huge delays. Adopt the Virginia system, with only disapprovals being listed. It works well, and without unnecessary backlogs developing. (11/8/2025)

2062. I feel as though the mail should not be getting scan because for one they do not give us every thing that comes in the envelope and when they do scan the mail they only scan half of the letter and not all. How are w to respond to the mail if we do not know what the full letter say and who it comes from. The photos come in bogus. (11/8/2025)

2063. I dont like the fact that our mail is not being put in my hand its a law suit (11/8/2025)

2064. I dont believe the mail change should affect legal mail. Even mail from the circuit clerk, and it has (11/8/2025)

2065. I dont agree with because i feel like its a violation of our privacy. Because all of our personal family,loved ones,friends and significnt others addresses are being copied and our pictures are being copied and their keeping our letters and pictures aint no telling what they are doing with our pictures and addresses. These co's could retaliate against us and our loved ones and arent trust worthy. And ive been having mail on the tablet that ive written multiple request to get printed and its been over a month with no success so its a long and tiring process. No telling when ill get it they can wait to the last minute and it can be to late and it erases from the tablet and i'll never get my personal mail. So its really unjust because all of our peoples information is being exposed to the co's and our pictures which are our personal things which again no telling what they are doing with our personal information and pictures. People are sick and cruel and can retaliate against us or keep our belongings so i dont feel safe and comfortable with this new process with our personal and intimate belongings i feel scared for the safety of my family and myself and of the exposure of my pictures of my loved ones and intimate pictures of my family,friends,loved ones and significant loved ones. (11/8/2025)

2066. I believe that the department shouldnt be allowed to send me scanned mail. My family pays for the cards and i cant have them. Also i feel like IDOC is calling my family members drug dealers and not upstanding members of the community. Not all people that in here families

commit crimes and not all people are criminals.i feel like its the union just trying to push that message on the public that are familes are not good people. (11/8/2025)

2067. I believe that digital mail is ridiculess.Some of us like to have our pictures the regular way.Especially when they come from a publishing company already. (11/8/2025)

2068. I believe it is illegal in some form or fashion and it will garner a lot of lawsuits.I also,believe,it was done to hide illegal activity regarding bogus/fraudulent mail. I was inquiring to an outside Law Enforcement entity about the post office stamps, as well as the electronic post stamp serial numbers (someone had stolen a $15,000 check from me ,and who knows what else (a $ 15,000,000 + check, maybe)),and I was seeing segments on the news about people cutting open mailboxes and stealing the mail. I believe taking away the physical mail only adds to the confusion and that whomsever idea it was, may have been the corrupt P.O.S. .REINSTATE THE PHYSICAL MAIL. (11/8/2025)

2069. Whose convenience is this for anyway? Certainly not ours. What about our children and grandchildren who drew pictures and colored them? We cannot touch the picture and make a connection with them. Or, recently recieved a letter from ARM Ministries about Bible corespondent courses and the last paragraph was cut off when the mail room scanned it, and they will not fix it. Like I said this is not for our benefit as convicts. (11/8/2025)

2070. This mail change is not solving any thing on the drugs in idc and its not right that if my grandmother sends me cards or letters i forever lose the orgininals if she passes away and ive already seen where idoc sent the wrong pictures to the wrong people on returns both having the last name smith .This happened in robinson cc. Also after the drug problem continues in idoc I think we should get our mail back . Also if you staff members are falling out due to exsposure why are use the inmates who dont smoke and are constanly around it not falling out idoc has fail to protect me or produce any programs toward helping me i understand ur efforts and attempts but ive personaly seen an increase in the drugs since the mail stopped and its even cheaper (11/8/2025)

2071. This is a bad change to the mail system. There's a lot of us that have a long time to do, we like or personal mail for memories of our loved ones. We are being punished because the staff members don't want to do their jobs. Then when they first changed to electric mail, they said we can order copies of the physical mail and/or pictures. Now they're saying we can't have copies. I'm getting electric copies of pictures that will be gone forever in 6 months. So what happens to the physical mail that comes in? They dont give it to me and I don't want them to throw it away. I don't do drugs and there's plenty others that don't do drugs. So why do we havw to be punished even more than we already are, just because the staff doesn't want to do their jobs. Punish the ones that are doing the drugs, the staff knows who they are, so punish the not everyone. The system changes the rules, they take away our mail and say we can request copies. Then again, they don't want to do their jobs, and now they don't even want to give us copies. I know I'm in prison on my own acord, but know I can't even watch my family grow, because you erase my memories after 6 months. So please instead of punishing us more, tell the staff to just do their jobs, and punish the ones who mess up, not everyone. Thank you and take care. (11/8/2025)

2072. The proposed mail changes is bogus and unconstitutional. If a love one send me a letter or a greeting card, that will hold sentimental value to me, and it just not the same as receiving it in the tablet. (11/8/2025)

2073. The copy of mail is not at all on ""high quality"" printed paper at the Lawrence CC. The quality is at the point of out right disrepsectful. Hand written letters from loved have the upmost sentimental value that cannot be replaced.. And not to be able to hold on to that takes away the little humanity we can have. (11/8/2025)

2074. Taking away letters written by loved ones is wrong. Sure they are copied and put on the tablets, but not everyone knows how to get on the tablet and retreive their mail. Also we were told if we want a physical copy of our mail to write a request slip labled "mail print request" with the document number to get our mail printed off and sent to us. Ive been waiting for nearly a month for my letters to be printed and givin to me, basically my mail print requests have thusfar gone un answered. (11/8/2025)

2075. Some people like to keep there cards from love ones in the family or from a friend.. What if that person pass away in you in this place thats the only thing you have from them our the pics that they send you only way is on the tabile thats not right. Its crazy that everybody have to pay for what somebody did. What about pics of your kids you will like to hold then in your hands. Then yall say just ask for coyps this place do not do anything for us we are still asking for copys of are mail and pics. Now yall stop us from order cards an books thats crazy.. I know we are lockup. Yall just trying to stop us from haveing a life in this place thats sad. My sister sent me a birthday card with some pics of the kids first day going back to school she put a tracking number on the mail it told her it was here on 8-26-25. I call her everday to let her know i still have not got my card or pics. So one day we was on the phone she told me they sent my card an pics back to her and this place did not let me know. Yall just do not want to do your job. Everytime something go bad its on us now that is crazy. (11/8/2025)

2076. Our mail is important for us cause thats really all we have from the outside world. Also our mail hold sential ment value to us cause some of the people who wrote us is no longer here. And for our mail to be upload on a tablet where we no longer have the actual letters from our love ones and they be destroyed is not fair to all. (11/8/2025)

2077. It is understood what The Department Of Corrections is trying to do. But, to take away letters that our family and loved ones send us through mail is unreasonable. For example, lets say a loved on writes us a letter and they pass away, that physical letter hold sentimental value and to take that away from anyone free or incarcerated is as cold and inhumane as some of the crimes committed by some individuals in custody and it would be committed by The Department Of Corrections. The group of people employed to rehabilitate individuals in custody. But as I earlier stated, its understood why but the approach is wrong. Instead of taking away, tighten up protocal when searching the mail, employ different methods in these searches. Taking away people's mail and pictures would be asking for an uproar within the walls of these institutions and creating a hostile enviorment for residents and staff. As a currently incarcerated individual with children, a wife, a mother who's sick and battling with illnesses, any letter or pictures my family sends I want to be able to have those physical copies of letters and picture because that would be

something that they held in their hands and poured their emotions into and when you have these things you can feel that, that energy tranfers. At the end we're still human and have rights and feelings and emotions that are valid regardless of what crimes we've committed and how society precieves us..... Please take these suggestions seriously and consider them in the light that they are coming from PEOPLE NOT INMATES. Thank you for the opportunity to voice concerns and opinions. (11/8/2025)

2078. I understand the point of trying to keep contraband from arriving within the penal system. I do not disagree with the means that are being used to keep such contraband out of the facilities. However from a personal perspective our mail such as letters, cards, etc from our love ones have sentimental value to prisoners. Once thee above mentioned items have been properly screened offenders in custody should be given their mail. Thank you. (11/8/2025)

2079. I think the changes to the mail is wrong period, being able to physically hold my pictures and mail makes me closer with my family and friends and by not receiving my mail takes away the sentimental value away from me. (11/8/2025)

2080. I think that everyone in idoc custody should be able to get their actual real copy of their mail . Because alot of the inmates mail has sentimental value like letters from their kids, obituarys from there loved ones ect alot of the mail coming from a inmates family has alot of meaning to it everyone in idoc does not have anything to do with the drugs being put on the mail so why does EVERYONE have to suffer and get their mail on the tablet some of the mail inmates get might come from a loved that might pass away in the future and thats all they have to remember them with can you please give the inmates in idoc there actual copy of their mail back to them please have a bless day! (11/8/2025)

2081. I think scanning the mail not only takes a lot longer to get but its also not as sentimental, theirs nothing like having the actual mail & pictures from our kids & loved ones. My mom mailed me letters before the scanning started & i have yet to get them, its been 3 months now since ive recieved a letter because they started scanning & not only that but the one letter i did get was cut off & i cldnt see the whole thing & dont know what it said
(11/8/2025)

2082. I think its wrong to withhold our letters from us. We get our letters from friends and family and being able to have them and be able to hold them and read them over and over even in the middle of the night when we are having a hard timesleeping and missing home. And now we cant do that. It sucks. It is totally wrong. Give us our mail back. (11/8/2025)

2083. I think its absoulety annoying. I want to keep the letter my family sends and pictures because what it someone passes and thats all you got left from that person. Lets be real!! Most the drugs coming in are probably coming from the CO's themselves. If anything after yall photocopy the mail and photos i think you should return to sender so they can keep it all for me because once i leave prison i cant take the tablet home or download them onto a sd card or something or the sorts. (11/8/2025)

2084. I really think its a problem that we inmates is not receiving our mail..Do to the fact it

takes to long to receive your mail as it is..And its un personal not.to mention we have death certificates and obituarys that should not be placed in our tablets.. (11/8/2025)

2085. I strongly feel like this rule change isnt right. I do see why it is being considered though. Inmates like myself who dont abuse the rules or use the mail for illegal contraband feel like its not fair to us. I know there is no way to figure out who does and dosnt abuse the mail system. But receiving the actual letter that are loved ones sent us is alot more meaningful than an uploaded digital copy. IE: my Grandmother who is on hospice wrote me a letter to send in and I had told my dad to just hold onto it until I come home so I can have it forever instead of being uploaded and thrown away. I would like to have that letter in my possesion so I can have it on the day she passes away but now I cant. But at the end of the day, Im all for making the prisions safer. (11/8/2025)

2086. I feel this is taking one of the most important life lines of communication away from us. the scent of home, or loved ones is on the original document, and the scense of love and compasion is lost in a "Copy" especially a "DigitalCopy"
also I have received an important document from home as digital mail, and am having one helluva time getting them to give me a printed copy of it. I can't seem to get one, even though I have made MULTIPLE requests for it! (11/8/2025)

2087. I feel i am being punished for other peoples crimes. I wont be able to get christmas cards or pictures from my family without them being deleted in 6 months. These are keepsakes, not trash. They are in their 70s now, one day their letter will be their last one. Shame on you for throwing it out. (11/8/2025)

2088. I dont like it i feel having the physcal mail is a better choice (11/8/2025)

2089. I dont like it because it feels differnt gettinag a letter that u know was once touched by an loved one and not having tobread it off the tablet and wht if mybtablet is broke or is dead and i woukd like to read my mail what i im in seg and cant get it i would like my regular mail (11/8/2025)

2090. I dont know if this comment or my opinion going to mean anything because your department changed the amendment/law already dealing with our mail but not be able receive physical letters or mail from your family/friends does something to your mental health.your kids cant send your a letter and draw a picture and you cant get it anymore physically just scanned.a scanned letter dosent have meaning or feelings to it its almost like an a.i creation.being able to hold a letter in your hand and feel it and hear your name called at mail time lifts spirits and give people hope but now wondering if you gonna get mail or if they gonna fully scan it or if they gonna reject it just to reject it inflicts saddness,depression,hopelessness.physical mail shouldnt be stopped its not the drugs thats supposely coming through from the mail its tje staff just havin less work to do and we suffer and 1st amendment rights just violated. (11/8/2025)

2091. I do not think that changes should be made to the mail because i want my personal mail to stay personal like i dont want my moms or grandmoms obituary or letters an stuff on a digetal tablet because it can be lost. (11/8/2025)

2092. I do not like it, because my family member be sending pictures and other thing I hear about the family like to see when I can not go on my tablet to see, like when family member passaway I need done thing in my life.
(11/8/2025)

2093. I am currently incacerated at Logan Correctional Center. I believe this ruling is unfounded. For most, if not ALL of the women here, receiving mail is our livelihood. It's one of the few consistent ways we truly get to bond and stay connected to our family.
I believe it said the mail would stay on our tablets for 6 months, but those with longer years to serve wouldn't be able to cherish their memories and/or want to keep up to date or be included in family gatherings and whatnot through pictures, letter and/or cards.
We understand that there are a small percentage of inmates who will try to use and abuse the privilege of the mail process, but we ALL shouldn't be punished for it. If/when you do find the illegal mail those individuals should be dealt with accordingly.
I pray my comments reach the eyes, ears, hands and hearts of those who can really FEEL what im saying. Receiving tangible copies of mail is a REAL thing that we love, cherish, NEED and want to maintain our sanity within these walls.
Thank you for the opportunity to comment! (11/8/2025)

2094. This method further disassociates the confined prisoner from family, friends, reality and society. Plus loss of collective memory and value of ownership\property. (11/8/2025)

2095. As a inmate we all need are mail from are familys i hope we can get are pictures photo regular not digital (11/8/2025)

2096. Doing mail on tablets is unfair for us inmates b/c that is the only actual mail and photos we can have from family and friends... I feel it is unfair for us to have them on the tablets and only have it for 6 months (11/8/2025)

2097. At Logan CC, mail that's scanned and posted to our tablets all comes named as "Unknown". After it's opened and read, when a new piece of scanned mail is received it's posted in the middle of mail that's already been read. Once the mail has been read it all still says Unknown and it's not on our tablets in order of date posted. This make it very difficult to go back and re-read a particular piece of mail. My suggestion is that each scanned piece of mail be listed by name of sender and be listed in order of date posted. (11/8/2025)

2098. Well i dont know how well it wprks because it takes forever for any mail to get on there. Ive been waiting for over a week for pictures and letters. But i think that i should be able to download the pictures to my gallery that way i have easy access to my photos my family send and even the photo of the letters so they dont ever go away. I would also hope they can speed up the process, because i was told by many people that this would take less time for the mail to get here. I also would like to sugguest that we are able to receve photos from our family and friends vila an email like thing that the countys use so no paper mail is needed in first place, printing the pictures isnt cheat already then theres the mailing cost and once yall get them you scan them and then throw them away, no point in all that. They get sent vila email or whatever same as

message, our family pays like $.50 for one or they have to spend like $15 or $20 for like 30 or 40 photos. Once sent the photos would go through a check for nudity or anything else not allowed and send to our tablet to same place as normal mail is sent for us. Simple and makes yall more money plus keeps these uh people happy getting there photos faster. (11/8/2025)

2099. This ia for safety i understand. But the mailroom at graham c.c. is so far behimd that we are concerned it will get even further behind. It has been taking up to 5 or 6 weeks for mail to bedeliveredto individuals after reciept in the facilty. (11/8/2025)

2100. The mail is super slow and its ridiclous waiting weeks on end for mail to arrive or atleast b cleared by staff (11/8/2025)

2101. The Illinois department of corrections have switched to putting mail on our tablets and it has been a complicated thing because we cant get our mail printed out in time and not all of our family pictures are uploaded on our tablets (11/8/2025)

2102. Mail should be given out at the begining of the day (11/8/2025)

2103. Mail is slow very slow getting it in Logen. Plus stupid we cant get pictures anymore. Unless on the tablets. Need better C.Os. An just better employers some here do they job an are nice but others do to much an are rude an jerks. (11/8/2025)

2104. Its not. Bad idea t only poblem i woul say is that it takes longer then it would for regular mail and the amount of time that it stay on the tablet before ita removed.. (11/8/2025)

2105. It takes to long for us to get our mail.
We can't get prints of our mail. (11/8/2025)

2106. It will take too long for the mail to be processed. & they dont put codes on all mail that has been coming on the tablet, so dont know how would we be able to get copies of important documents. (11/8/2025)

2107. It slow as fuck and they need to post the # on it also it takes forever to recieve the mail requested my cellies got mail took two weeks to post to his tablet and he requested the mail and still waiting for it its been 4 weeks since the request (11/8/2025)

2108. Im sure no one is happy with the mail scan program we cant get copies of our mail and they are sending people the wrong mail over and over again (11/8/2025)

2109. Im not opposed to the new mail system i am however disappointed in how things that were said to be done arent honored (11/8/2025)

2110. I think the change of mail is difficult being electronically (11/8/2025)

2111. I think that the proposed mail change is not good the quality of the mail uploaded on the tablet is not good quality and you have a hard time reading the letters of loved ones when it is

uploaded instead of a paper copy i also feel like its not the same when you receve mail on the tablet becuase you dont have the actual paper or copy of what they sent you so it doesnt feel like its that important to you i would like to actually receve my mail that is sent to me or receve photo copys of the mail sent to me so i can look at it at any time and hold the copy in my hand and not have to rely on my tablet being charged or turned on to look at a peace of mail that i should be able to look at at any time i also feel like if i get my tablet taken away that i will not be able to look at past mail that someone has sent me and remeber the things that they have sent and feel farther away from loved ones that took the effort to reach out of there way not digitally but took there time to sit down and write a letter the old school way i also feel like it is not fair and violates are rights to not be able to have that peace of mail or photo copy of that peace of mail that someone has sent becuase if when i am suppose to leave idoc i wanted to take that peace of mail home with me i will not be able to do that and if that person passes away i will not have there mail to remeber them by i fwwl like idoc should enforce thw rules in a diffrent way and find a resoulotion to not having to upload mail to a tablet but still taking the percautions to get mail to inmates the safe way that does not cause any problems (11/8/2025)

2112. I have no issues with checking or scanning mail as long as it speeds up delivery. Mail in IDOC takes an extreme amount of time to receive. (11/8/2025)

2113. I get mail alot but with this new thing i have gotten no mail and i know that i have mail here at this prison which is logan prison in lincoln illinois we are getting mail from 2 months back sometimes becaus of this i think this new thing with the mail is stupid they are punishing everyone for what reason? Its not fair that we have to wait on our mail like this (11/8/2025)

2114. I feel that if mail is electronically scanned it should be processed in a timely manner and not 1 month later.. I say this because my Blackstone Paralegal mail was delayed by 1 month which led to my school payment being missed. (11/8/2025)

2115. For one they never scan the letters, pictures and cards right. They all have something missing on them or cut off the sides and bottons. I requested copies of all of my mail and still havent recieved them. They need to get rid of the scanned mail and go back to recieving our mail. This was a mistake and we are paying for it. (11/8/2025)

2116. No comment!!! (11/8/2025)

2117. Do like it (11/8/2025)

2118. Dont like it (11/8/2025)

2119. Dont take the mail away (11/8/2025)

2120. I dislike the new electronic mail (11/8/2025)

2121. I think it is a lot of bullshit (11/8/2025)

2122. I dont think they should do that (11/8/2025)

2123. I feel the old system was fine. (11/8/2025)

2124. This new mail pilot program, now not everyone in IDOC is smoking that crap that is going around, you keep on putting the same people in seg for having what you people call episodes. Those are the ones that you need to get rid of , transfer , send to Sheridan for treatment, you can send us anywhere you want, get rid of the troubleakers, Thank you for your time. (11/8/2025)

2125. What's the point of this survey? I am curently a prisoner , individual in custody is a load of crap to please the public eye. My incarceration is suposed to be my punishment an attonement, but this mail rule and all other rules are just ways for IDOC to increase the amount prisoner suffer while incacerated. I have heard officers say thier job is to make our lives a living hell so we don't come back, but you have IL 3 years to life parole that allow parole officers to keep throwing people back in prison for any reason they can think up. So please stop pretending like any one acctually cares what a prisoner thinks. (11/8/2025)

2126. You are causing more problems than you are solving. What do you really think is going to happen? In recent years illicit drug use in prison shifted from cocaine, marijauna and meth to k2. From what I saw fights were down, assaults on correctional officers were down as long as guys were mellowed out on the k2. Now you "think" you have solved the k2 problem when in reality, CONGRATULATIONS!!! you've only created more issues. You will now have guards bringing it in as I have heard there are request slips and grievance forms sprayed or dipped in the k2 already LOL..You've wasted millions and millions in taxpayer dollars to only create an explosion in illicit drugs that are/were almost non-existant in recent times. Good luck to you IDOC but you've really screwed the pooch on this one. (11/8/2025)

2127. good job. (11/8/2025)

2128. I like it a hundred percent, it keeps these paper smokers from getting high in the program. (11/8/2025)

2129. I think its good that way cause if your not in the cell and the co leaves the mail your celly cant look at it (11/8/2025)

2130. I like it (11/8/2025)

2131. Good idea intoxent coming on paper,its sprayed on and they smoke it.Dangerous i dont think it can be detected
K2!! (11/8/2025)

2132. What changes ?.....THIS is nothing more than another cruel & unusual oppressive monopoly door opener.... drug dealers will still try & profit , and this futher assures drug addicts will leave the i.d.o.c. a "drug addict" , when THE access/choice returns going home ! till then its also known theyll replace the addiction with something else , most likely harmful to self/others in this prison community ..... THIS also denies/impeeds pro-se litigants 1st Amendments Lewis

vs casey - "access to the courts." i can go on for pages how this System already ties our hands with actions that have nothing to do with genuine "safety & security"....longer delays , the mail room's "received" dates are already a lie , why ? (11/8/2025)

2133. This is not going to stop drugs from comming into the joint!! Most of it comes from the c/o's. So how is stopping our mail going to solve anything? (11/8/2025)

2134. This is not fair that our mail is being stopped due to "supposivly" exposure to drugs here only brought in by visits/mail but what they fail to realize even staff is guilty of this and they are not being stripped of everything that they bring in here,its even been said when they come to work they dont even get their bags checked or their body put through a scanner soooooo with this being said if we are being punished so should they! (11/8/2025)

2135. This is long over due. Here in Robinson Cc. I know who is selling the laced paper these idiots are smoking. There is no discliplin here and these idiots do what they want. So that means other people are forced to breath that crap. If you have staff getting exposed what do you think happens to us? Who dont want to inhale bug killer. These idiots are even putting something on paper at horticulture class and selling it. I still see idiots getting mail also. It needs to stop. (11/8/2025)

2136. These new changes that are being proposed are highly unfair. Due to some individuals "cunning" the rest of us most suffer. I read the proposal and found it quite fantastical. Phones and weapons being smuggled through books, huh? Where is the proof? Where is the data and facts to support this claim. You should have to substantiate this claim. I won't deny there is a great possibility to smuggle paper laced drugs through the mail but to counter this possibility don't people work in the mail room? Aren't they trained to detect possible contraband posing as mail. Why should we be made to suffer due thier incompetence. Also, it is ridiculous that we are not able to send the orginial mail sent to us home. If my kid draws me a picture and sends it to me and the mail room scans it and uploads it to my tablet, I should be afforded the opportunity to send the orginial drawing home. From my understanding, this isn't currently an option I have; instead the mailroom is going to dispose (trash) my kid's drawing. God forbid this new proposal passes, but if so, we should get the opportunity to send the mail we get sent in back home. (11/8/2025)

2137. THE RESIDENTS HERE IN IDOC DOESN'T APPROVE THIS MAIL GOING TO THE TABLETS BECAUSE THEIR BEING ACCUSS OF HAVING SOMEONE FROM THE OUTSIDE MAILING DRUGS AND OTHER CONTRABAND. WHERE THE OFFICERS AND STAFF MEMBERS ARE THE ONE BRINGING IT. NOW AT GRAHAM C.C.. THEY WON'T ALLOW RESIDENTS TO RECEIVE MAIL AND NON NUDE PHOTO SHOTS FROM COMPANIES. (11/8/2025)

2138. The new policy on scanning mail and putting it on the tablet has not stopped the flow of drugs or chemical based paper coming into the prison system. It is still plentiful for people to get so it is getting into the prisons some other way. The department of corrections should investigate the staff members because thats the only way the drugs are getting in. Since the mail scanning has started getting mail from loved ones has been delayed twice as long as it had been. It has

been taking two or three weeks to get letters from loved ones. The mail system needs to be fixed soon as possible because peolpe that rely on letters for mental security and to improve their mental health are not getting their mail. That will hurt people that have mental health problems. (11/8/2025)

2139. The new mail system is terrible. I believe the idoc. Can come up with other ways to stop drugs from getting in . besides that inmates are still finding ways to use drugs. Give us our mail. C. King. (11/8/2025)

2140. The mail scanning and picture/book restriction is a waste of time and money. The only officers that tested positive for narcotics are the ones that obviously had a drug problem themselves. There is no safety concern with individuals receiving newsletters and books. Its all a waste of time. Also if nudity is allowed why does the mail room have a problem letting it through? (11/8/2025)

2141. THE GUYS THAT ARE DOING THE RIGHT THING, ARE TIRED OF THESE DRUGS AND DISRUPTION... THEY PLACEMENT, PUT THESE DRUG USERS IN THE CELL WITH US ,UNWILLINGLY, AND WHEN THEY HAVE A OVER DOSE, OR GET CAUHT WITH THE K2 , WE ARE LOCKED UP WITH THEM.... WHICH IS WRONG.... IF I PICKED THE PERSON I KNEW THIS WAS A RISK...
THINGS NEED TO CHANGE... THEY ALSO COME OUT OF SEGERGATION AND ARE STILL ON THE "JOB LIST" WHICH IS WRONG.... I HAVE NOT HAD NOT ONE VIOLENT TICKET IN 35 YEARS... NO DRUGS, NO FIGHTS NOTHING.... MY DISCIPLINARY HISTRORY SHOULD SPEAK FOR ITS SELF (11/8/2025)

2142. Thanks its helpfull. (11/8/2025)

2143. Thank you for changing the mail procedure, because i for one do not like the drugs that inmates have coming in the mail, because when they smoke it, we the inmates that do not do drugs are force to smell and inhale it, and the inmates that do smoke this drug on paper they either become phyical violent or sexual violent either way this is a big step in stoping the paper drug issue,!!!, NOW if you could stop the official misconduct of correctional officers, in the Illionis Department of Corrections, who ingage in bring this paper drugs into the insitution for personal finacial gain, and give this drugs to there inmate or indivial in custody, they have develope a inapporiate relationship with, then and only then, will you be able to run a drug free prison, if you need help with this issue my name is Adam Simmons K-68584, and it will be the only right thing for me too do and help if im needed...Thank- you (11/8/2025)

2144. That sounds ""JUST- RIGHT"" because thats how drugs get into Corrections.Mail can easily be sprayed w/ anykind of liquid drug"" and easily missed by personal. Good Idea though!!!! (11/8/2025)

2145. Should just leave our mail alone was fine how it was if they would just get it to us on time period (11/8/2025)

2146. Receiving mail on the tablets not going to change the fact drugs coming into idoc 90 % of

the drugs thats coming into idoc is by staff as we all know just touching mail that may have drugs on it not going to harm anyone now if its anphras i understand but not that man made house hold stuff,even fentanyl want harm by the touch.we receiving mail and photos by mail mean alot our love one spends alot on our cards just to be sceen on put on tablets.paper mail is the best. (11/8/2025)

2147. Police bring books/papers etc. In all the time. Who says thats not how the drugs ar getting in? (11/8/2025)

2148. Never recieved any mail yet so im not sure what to think about it. (11/8/2025)

2149. Keep the mail the same (11/8/2025)

2150. its very dumb and invading (11/8/2025)

2151. Its the officers bringing it in..... I dont know why were acting like this is purely from the mail that comes in. Officers bring in 90% of all contraband. Have some common sense please. Yall just want to find any and every possible way to complicate our lives. I really do hope you and your families get placed in a position like this so you could understand. (11/8/2025)

2152. Its bullshit (11/8/2025)

2153. Its definitely important to do it for the safety of staff and others who are not involved in getting high on stuff sent in through the mail. (11/8/2025)

2154. Its not right that we keep getting punished for what others are doing this seems to be comin practice in the i d o c if you know that I am not the problem dont punish me. The administartion knows their bsd apples. (11/8/2025)

2155. It sucks that one inmate screws up we all have to be punished i have a pen pal ive been writing for over 4 years now i cant get her letters any more just photo copies im very angry its not right it takes multiple voices for positive change (11/8/2025)

2156. It seems like a good idea, however, at our facility there seems to be some descrepency between new rules and actual implimentation (11/8/2025)

2157. It makes you question the intention behind staff motives.. They say its to combat a drug issue dealing with the mail, so why not replace correctional officers as well seeing that most of the drugs come in from them?? Then the staff say they test it and it comes back as ???? According to what test kit that the population should have access to this information instead of just relying on the false statements of staff, which they have a history of false statements and cover ups. Ask yourself how many officers has been fired or arrested since opening (11/8/2025)

2158. It doesnt seem that this will solve the problem. Its more of a problem you solve by weeding out the people causing the issue and not punishing everyone. (11/8/2025)

2159. If this survey is about the mailscan new system, l can't say anything yet because l haven't receive that type of mail yet, so at this moment l have no answer. However, l rather have a paper letter than a scanned one. (11/8/2025)

2160. IDOC AND ITS CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES ARE JUST GETTING THEMSELVES INTO DEEPER SHIT THAN THEY'RE ALREADY IN.
THEY'RE ALREADY COMMITTING FRAUD AND TRYING TO STEAL PRISONERS MAIL AND PICTURES SO THAT THEY CAN GIVE IT TO THEIR BITCH ASS SNITCHES!
FURTHERMORE,THEY HAVE BEEN COMMITTING FRAUD FOR MAYBE UP TO THE PAST YEAR BY MAKING A BOGUS PROFILE ON THE CASH APP,AND A FEW MORE OF THE MOBILE BANKING APPS' JUST SO THAT THEY CAN FURTHER COMMIT THEIR CRIMINAL OPERATION AS A WHOLE,AS A WHOLE I MEAN THE WHOLE IDOC FROM THE DIRECTOR'S TO THE WARDEN'S TO THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICE INSIDE EACH CORRECTIONAL FACILITY TO THE HEAD OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT IN IDOC HQ IN SPRINGFIELD,ILLINOIS,IN WHICH ALL ACTS THAT I MENTIONED ARE PREDICATE IN NATURE AND VIOLATES THE FEDERAL CRIMINAL STATUTE UNDER THE RACKETEER INFLUENCE CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION STATUTE,OR RICO.
I'VE ALREADY SPOKE WITH MY ATTORNEYS' AND THEY'RE GETTING ALL NECESSARY PAPERWORK AND ALL DOCUMENTS TOGETHER AS WE SPEAK SO DEFINITELY BE LOOKING OUT AND EXPECT SHIT TO HIT THE FAN VERY,VERY,VERY SOON!
MY NAME AND PRISONER INFORMATION IS:
REDACTED (11/8/2025)

2161. I think this is a great idea because the drugs are still in facilities as we speak the mail needs to be investigated alot more as well as visitors tryin to bring it in (11/8/2025)

2162. I think they are good changes. It doesent hurt to put safety first. As long as there isnt a big delay in us getting our scaned mail. It took 9 days to get my letter from the postmarked on the letter. (11/8/2025)

2163. I think the new mail scan process is null. The drug problem as they say actually gives the employees of IDOC an opportunity to work for their money. There are ways to still get drugs in and i find it provocative that they just take our mail and run wild with it. Ive recieved letters that people will never be able to send again because they passed away and this new system hinders the ability to keep said mail
(11/8/2025)

2164. I think the change is a real drag and should be illegal (11/8/2025)

2165. I think that you guys have a great approach to changing the mail system in prisons to prevent overdoses from mailed in chemicals being sprayed on paper. However, you need to know that its not just coming from the mail from legal mail, regular sent in mail, it is coming from within the institutions itself. You need to figure out how to control your industry workers from spraying chemicals on paper and maintenance workers spraying chemicals on paper and

distributing it from within all prisons and jails. (11/8/2025)

2166. I think its great to get rid of that paper people are smoking I'm getting sick from it. It still bieng used so far, no good. You should just sell it on commissary you would make a fortune, since that's all you care about. Please put all the people buying that shit, off commassary, from you and keep em seperated from me please.I didn't cop out to this shit. I thought I would cop out for something I did not do. To come to I.D.O.C take a program and then get help getting on with what's left of my life. Boy oh boy was I wrong. This is a drug infested looney bin. With brown drinking water! (11/8/2025)

2167. I think it helps to keep us safe from people that smoke (11/8/2025)

2168. I like the mail changes, im all for anything that helps stop the drugs coming in (11/8/2025)

2169. I personally think this is a bad idea to upload all individuals in custody mail to their tablets because not all individuals in custody are doing things to cause this problem and it also violates our rights to have pictures, obituaries and magazines shipped from our families and friends. We all should not be subjected to such harsh penalties for others action. Most individuals in custody cherish their pictures and obituaries from their families and friends. This is a punishment on us who value being able to pull out a pictures of our dead relative or friend, our girlfriends or wives, children and look upon those images without having a 6 month deadline to do so so therefore i know this is a bad idea and it should be reconsidered by the deputy director and everyone who is playing a hand in this uploading of our mail on these tablets. Like im oncourt writs right now and i can't take my tablet tto stateville nrc with me so i and several others who are going on writs will not get to view our mail and pictures as much as other individuals. I pray this all is taken into consideration. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to address this issue. God bless. (11/8/2025)

2170. I respectfully want to say that i feel like this new rule is a positive change. I myself am a recovering addicit, and being in menard cc has not helped me in my recovery, i do not blame the staff or the prison it self, i blame the individuals who are getting the drugs in to the prison. This prison has the worst drug problem ive ever seen, i know that alot of people think that we as inmates are just bad people but that is not true, we have made mistakes, and are paying for those mistakes by living in a envirorment that has been designed and set up for us to fail and we are the only ones who can make the change within our selfs and use all the tools avalible to us. This new rule will help reduce the amout of people that are currenlty still using. It will help those who are trying to recover from addiction because the drugs will no longer be flowing all around us like a river, there are good people who have made bad choices that led the to prison i am one of them. I am a recovering drug addicit and i want to thank the department of corrections for making this new rule change because it shows that you all do care about us inmates, and want to try to help us and the c/os to be as safe as possible. I know that this new rule change is only the begining but it is a major step in stopping drug use in prison and that is to me one of the many thing that needs to be stopped because how are we as inmates supposed to try to take advantage of certian oppurtunitys in prison when we are still faced with the temptation of the things that led us to coming to prison. Most C/Os will try to tell us that we are supposed to just say no or not do the

drugs but how can you tell somone who has been a drug addicit for over half there life somthing like that. Somone who in the free world would turn to drugs to cope with pain and problems suchs as losing family members to Gang violence or losing there kids to the system or feeling like there a failure. How can you expect somone to change there ways of thinking when the, envirorment that is supposed to help them change is the same enviroment that led them to prison. This new rule change will help us in more way then you will ever know, it has helped me more then you will ever know so i just wanted to say thank you very much and God Bless.
(11/8/2025)

2171. I feel that the new system will hinder individuals more than help. Sometimes mail will get destroyed without cause and pictures that come from certain apps will not make it through. So more people will have trouble conmecting with their families. (11/8/2025)

2172. I feel that it's other methods that can be utilized to make sure that mail is safe. I know that mail scan is an over the top reaction response to the drug overdoses and usage in IDOC. If legal mail can be brought in safely using other methods that insures that us individuals incustody receives the original copy then so could all mail. I know that the IDOC staff are lazy an their response to anythinnis to take it away. Just ask yourself this one question. Would you want the original card or letter from your love one(s) or a copy. Everybody doesn't deserve to be punished for a few. (11/8/2025)

2173. I feel like the majority are paying for the actions of the few stupid and ignorant clowns who are smoking the garbage on the wings. Cos need to start coming in and crackdown on the smokers and send them out to seg more often and start sending them out to places they dont wanna be. (11/8/2025)

2174. I dont mond. (11/8/2025)

2175. I dont like it. (11/8/2025)

2176. i dont feel like scaning our mail is going to be productive. There is no data to show that it stoos anything from comming in institutions, furthermore there is evidence to the contrary in other states. I find it disheartening that I wont be able to get a card or letter from my loved ones. Not everyone participates in illegal activity while theyre in IDOC. Its been my experience in the 22 years Ive been in here that most of the contraband comes through not the mail, or visits but through staff. (11/8/2025)

2177. 100% trash the delays are crazy now. (11/8/2025)

2178. I believe IDOC shall not change mail to digital mail because it will not be the same. Its not the same reading an actual book, letter, article and reading it off a screen. It sort of loses interest in a way because some people dont want to look at a screen all the time. Some people want to pick up an actual item and read it. Also, when loved ones write letters, cards, etc., it loses value that was put into that item by the loved one when its only accesible on your tablet. Thank you. (11/8/2025)

2179. Good morning to all, and have a blessed day. I believe mail should continued to be sent to individuals in custody the regular way because this digital process has been tried before and it didn't work, so the jail begin given individuals their mail back the regular way (cook county jail). The digital process was a panick situation that only resulted in making things more complicated and created a burden on family, loved ones, friends and individuals in custody. Legislators enacted laws to make communications, connectivity, low-affordable prices because they understood the hardship of someone being incarcerated and the stresses and mental health issues that's caused from it, as well as family and loved ones sufferring due to their loved ones being incarcerated. By enacting these laws, it took a huge burden off family and loved ones, and create a more productive and healthy life for not only family and loved ones but for individals in custody! I'm an indivdual that has loss alot of family and friends these 18 plus years i've been incarcerated, i still suffer and hurt deeply from these traumatic and devastating losses, one of the things that i look forward to when i'm down, i can go in my box in pull out their letters, cards, pictures to give me comfort, and it helps me make it thru the day, night, months and years! I have loss my mother, both grandmothers, 2 brothers, 14 yr. old female cousin, 6 month old female cousin (recently), aunties, uncles, cousins, and friends. Now with mail being digital, there is no sentimental value nor the authenticity of letters, cards and pictures that i will always be able to cherish for the rest of my life from those whom i loved dearly has left something behind for me as well as the memories that we created. My personal letters, cards and pictures will be deleted in 6 months and are left exposed on a system where staff (a staff member was fired for going in the system and getting the contact information of an individual in custody partner, and contacting her to have relations, the only reason it was known, was because it was reported after the individual in custody founded out, administration never knew) and any other vendor that these devices are sold or given to once IDOC has moved on to a different vendor. All and all, i'm asking that mail be returned back to the regular way because everyone deserve to have the authentic mail that their family, loved ones and friends have taken the time out of their day to sit down and do, as well as money that was spent, going to the post office to bring joy to their incarcerated loved ones only to know that their loved ones can't receive their mail directly because it's being uploaded on a tablet and being deleted after 6 months, as well as it being a process that's been tried before and didn't work! Authentic mail directly from our loved ones is what bring comfort during these mental roller coasters of being incarcerated!!!! Thanks and God bless. (11/8/2025)

2180. Hello my comments about mail is that i should go back too the way it was the letters and pictures have sentle menal values from they love one not only that what happens too our picture after there done people dont know how many hands our pictures go threw its not just creeps in jail they out there also so my vote is go back the old ways were its being passed out thank you for my opinon (11/8/2025)

2181. Due to the mailing being scanned and uploaded to the individuals in custodys tablet isnt solving the matter. The problem will still go on and on and on, due to the laced hazard paper mail isnt coming from family members, loved ones nor any orginizations such as education or religions practices. Not everybody has criminal intentions nor do drugs is my opinions,This issue will still continue to go on if theres lawyers that have mailing with hazard laced mail sent to individuals which causes a unhealthy inviroment for the incarcerated. This issue is not on the familys,friends and loved ones nor education and religions sending mail to the in custody this

matter needs to be solidified with the attorneys in the matter of court which can be fixed by scanning their mail from the outside before it gets sent to any individualsvin custody. (11/8/2025)

2182. If you going to put mail on the tablet you might as well put everything else, such as the videos that our family can send us they should be able to send photos through the device, video visits it a make it so much easier and makes more sense especially here in menard we have no privacy on video visit other inmates can see and hear our visits thats very uneasy. (11/8/2025)

2183. There have instances where mail have been sent to the wrong tablets. There is no need to express the havoc that this can cause with others gaining access to the names and addresses of loved ones of other residents. This seems intentional, but how is it to be resolved? (11/9/2025)

2184. Why does are mail have to be scanned and why do we have to put a form in to get a copy of are mail or pictures (11/9/2025)

2185. If mail is approve at one prison why is it not at another (11/9/2025)

2186. How long till u get mail after u get it on your tablet? (11/9/2025)

2187. Currently we cannot get color copies of our mail contrary to what the Departmental Rule states. (11/9/2025)

2188. I understand why this change is happening,i do have concerns about our mail,1) where does my original mail or photos go after they are scanned and put on my tablet? 2) what happens if scanned or photo copies are not clear to read? Im hearing some people are having issues with that. 3) some mail coming through tablets dont have return addresses or information on who sent the mail,how do i get that missing information? 4) im an artist and do a lot of art work to help pass my time and connect with family through my art so if a book is sent to me by family(coloring books,drawing books) is every page going to be scanned and put on my tablet? Where would these books go after being scanned,family have spent money on these books to just be thrown away,the material on my tablet will only be there for a certian time then would be eraced,but the book can be with me for as long as i need it. My family may not have the means to buy a book off a company and pay to have it sent to me,they may find it in a dollar store or flea market that dont do shipping. These are my concerns. Thank you for listening. (11/9/2025)

2189. What are the rule changes and where can I find the rules? (11/9/2025)

2190. We should have an option to send our mail home before it is destroyed also what more stringent securities measures are gonna be implemented on staff its easy to say the drug problem is coming thrue the mail but we both know it is also being brought in by staff. I believe if you were truely seriouse about getting the drugs out you have to deal with both the mail issue and the staff issue
(11/9/2025)

2191. I believe that we should be able to recieve our pictures from our love ones that they send

us instead of being place on the tablet and get copies of it on a piece of paper (11/9/2025)

2192. I dont think its fair to punish everyone. They have lots of ways to test mail for contraband. Like x-rays an other scaners. (11/9/2025)

2193. I strongly suggest that obituaries, photographes be given to persons in custory instead if being destroyed after six months as these are forever keepsake memories and should be seen as such. (11/9/2025)

2194. I think the idea behind this is good, because these individuals that like to do the drugs can't easily get them anymore. I think if our request slips and staff contact such as sick calls were on the tablet as well it would be faster and more efficient, and economical. The mail should be able to be sent home if we choose to pay for postage, just incase we want to save special things like letters from our children. (11/9/2025)

2195. I understand the need for security, but it takes almost 2 months to get mail here at Graham now, is it going to make it even slower? Why dont you just get a black light scaner, scan incoming mail. it would probally be quicker. I dont know but the mail situation is bad as is. But i guess if you wanted mail you shouldnt have come to prison. (11/9/2025)

2196. Instead of worring about the mail worry about getting more programs so we can get involved and get out of here having learned something and with better habbits (11/9/2025)

2197. I feel like its a good idea but also i feel we should be able to get paper mail also fo people on the outside that write letters and send pictures. (11/9/2025)

2198. I think the ones that was reciveing the drugs from the outside should be punshied and others that did not have anthing to so with this should be aloud to recieve all mail in hand at maul time ..... (11/9/2025)

2199. I dont think this is fair for people who cant or dont know how to use the tablets to see there mail i think we should be able to look at our mail at any time in hand when ever were thinking about realitives. We cant take digitnal letters home that ruins things thats special to us (11/9/2025)

2200. Lots of mail comes in that individuals need in paper copy form. Anything requiring a signature, for instance, or tax related forms, or more importantly a form requiring an original signature which was already signed by another party. Please consider a mailing designation for incoming documents "signature required" or some such, so the sender can alert staff at the facility of the nature of the documents and that they are not designed for digitization. Hope this helps. (11/9/2025)

2201. I feel its ok if they let us send the original mail and photos home after they scan it because if our family or friends die that will be the last thing we ever get from them i also feel as tho everyone should get a chance to get physical mail untill they abuse the privlidge with flyers telling people of the risk to loose the privlidge and also ticket history and even case history if

need be can be taken into consideration expecially people who tryed to smugle stuff in the facility before people who drop dirty or get caught with drigs onthere person or caught attempting to cheak drugs and i say that because i have seen people get set up by other inmates putting blades or drugs just to get someone out of there room or take sombody out without going with them please take that into consideration if this is even taken into consideration to begin with thank you for your time (11/9/2025)

2202. About incoming photos. Having them put onto our tablet is nice, but what happens when our tablet breaks? Do we lose these photos that cannot be replaced of deceased family and friends? Please address this issue.
(11/9/2025)

2203. I believe it is a violation to open peoples mail as well as take mail from me.. (11/9/2025)

2204. I believe that this is a better safer way to have our mail processed. My ownly hang about it is that when we request to have certain pictures sent to us from the mailroom that they get sent in black and white instead of color,by getting them in black and white we are unable to tell what the picture is of. (11/9/2025)

2205. I dislike the new mail process. Logan mailroom is very strict with our mail and its the smallest things that stop our mail. Our family and friends took out their time to send pictures and letters and Logan make sure they give us a hard time with our mail. (11/9/2025)

2206. I do not think it is a good thing cause it interfers with federal mail laws and it is federal mail tampering they already open any mail coming in even if it is religious mail and they hold any religious items like necklaces spirit / tarot cards its not right they are not only violating federal mail laws but are also interfering with our right to religion (11/9/2025)

2207. I feel that is the most unprofessonal thing ive ever heard being in jail nobody has been getting there mail just let it go back to normal (11/9/2025)

2208. I feel that the new way with the mail is not right cause we most of the time dont get our mail and its not the same as holding something that comes from ur family some poeple dont know who to work the tablest in the frist place (11/9/2025)

2209. I feel there are people that should be able to get mail such as cards and pictures of they kids,like they say gang signs to kids that are 3/4/5/6 kids that look like kids i dont think they should take those and we should also be able to get our mail once its been expected in ther was nothing found while under expection (11/9/2025)

2210. I feel what they are doing with the mail is wrong. You take for ever to get the mail. Our family cant send us mail. What is the point. (11/9/2025)

2211. I have Religious material, prayer rug and Kufi that is IDOC color appropriate that was delivered by mail to this facility on 10-14-2025 and i still havent recieved it. I put in request slips regarding the matter and family have called on the matter, i need my Religious material with

respect in practicing my Religion, could some one help in this matter? (11/9/2025)

2212. I have requested a copy of my mail from Oct a sweetest day card and still have not received anything. Also my wife sent me a postcard from a company named flikshop ""that is a publishing company"" in Oct and was supposed to be deliverd on Oct 12 and i still have not received anything due to this mail thing the state is doing. (11/9/2025)

2213. I think we should not change the mail process (11/9/2025)

2214. It is being said that after 6 months of them holding our mail they will throw it away. Why is my mail or anything i recieved that is going on the tablet being thrown away? I also requested a copy of the mail I already have on the tablet and yet to recieved it, its been 3 weeks now from my last request. If they don't have the staff nor the things they need to copy our mail we should be able to get it. We have value with all the mail we get and for us to not recieved it isn't fair to us. If there using this to stop drugs from coming in then they should request to have the right tools to fight that and all the test kits they need. This shouldn't stop us from recieving our mail, pictures, postcards, cards and so on. (11/9/2025)

2215. It is very illigal and it is violating our rights we shouls be able to get our u.s postal mail. By taking our mail they is violating our constitutional rights . (11/9/2025)

2216. My family sent me a pack of photos (totaling 92 photos).
33 of the photos were deemed to be inappropriate and I was told to either send the 33 photos home, write a grievance, or destroy them... However, when I informed the mailroom I would like to send the alleged 33 inappropriate photos home, and have the remaining 59 photos sent to me, no one has sent me the remaining 59 photos yet... It has now been 2 weeks since my correspondence with the mailroom. Can you please help? I would like to receive the remaining 59 photos. Thank you! (11/9/2025)

2217. Mail should still be allowed to come into the facility for various reasons. But the main reason is to allow Individuals without legal representation, whom fight against staff that chose to misuse their authority, to be able to obtain Affadavits and other legal documents from family, friends, and loved ones (11/9/2025)

2218. Its bullshit that you guys are trying to find a loophole you want us to follow to get away with not giving us our mail which is a clear violation of our constitutional rights. (11/9/2025)

2219. It's good to keep the drugs out, But it's also bad because what if the letter came from a love one and they die the next day I would like to keep that letter. (11/9/2025)

2220. Its takes away the vaule of getting pictuers waste of money an it messes with mental of not getting to hold your own pictuers an they take them off the tablet in 6months so its a waste of money an suppourt (11/9/2025)

2221. Its unfortunate not to be able to have an actual holiday card or birthday card. Thats something that means alot to alot of people and is getting taken away from us. As long as we can

keep pictures through freeprint that is good. But if we can keep pictures and have to deal with the horrible job they do scanning the pictures thats not acceptable. We should be able to recieve pictures through text messages like we could at county. (11/9/2025)

2222. It not good at all i would rather have the real pictures of my family and real cards from my family also and as for the books maybe have low risk people able to buy hard covers and the high risk cant. I hope somehing change i like to buy DnD books most of them are hard cover and hard to get them other wise (11/9/2025)

2223. It is very illigal and very un constitutional its violating our rights to our mail (11/9/2025)

2224. It is not a good idea because now I can only get pictures sent in& put as a picture that i can only see on the tablet instead of being able to get the real pictures in person,Us who are incarcerated those pictures mean the world to us.please bring real pictures back to IDOC. (11/9/2025)

2225. I honestly feel as idoc shouldnt change the mail !& why i say not is because people have law work they need ,also people being gone away from society for decades trying to get back on appeals in need diffrent resources of legal mail that they might need in the future in currently right now everybody is not out to harm thereself from smoking paper or doing thing they have no buisness i do feel as the c/os should start paying more attention to what looking tampered with in scaning mail to be might be benificial but dont just do mix people like that because what abt people kids in loves one writting cards to their dads on moms who is incarcerated what if its a family emergency in the only way people can communicate is threw writting everybody is not so much forunate but that just how i feel idoc haves thier own structure on how they run things so just my view of things (11/9/2025)

2226. I think this whole change to the way our mail is being processed is, 'a bunch of B.S' one reason being is that our Tablets are breaking down on us daily and when they do, there is no way for us to get, received or read our letters, Cards, etc. We can't even view incoming photos. Secondly and most important, the change in processing our mail isn't going to change, or stop K2 or any other type of drugs from coming into the prison(s). It is a known fact that for the right price, IDOC Staff members has and will continue to brings drugs into the prisons and jails, So, what is the real purpose of y'all changing the way our mail is being process. Also, its kind of bougus to be asking for our input on this whole mail situation after you have changed it. I can and will promise you this, though, "K2 and all other types of drugs will continue to be brought into all of IDOC's, by your Officers and other Staff members". So therefore, the change within the mail is a defeat of purpose. (11/9/2025)

2227. I think they shouldnt change this cause you dont have privited at all having are rights violate now all inmates have to forces to not get all are mail from are family (11/9/2025)

2228. Electronic mail is a hinderance to staff and inmates. Security needs to do a better job inspecting mail and doing their jobs correctly. (11/9/2025)

2229. I object to the implementation of IDOC policy of scanning inmates' incoming mail. The

decision to do so is without evidence, and studies have shown that in other states that have imementing (11/9/2025)

2230. I object to the IDOC's policy of scanning inmates' incoming mail. The decision to do so lacks evidence-based research. In fact, in other states where policies of mailscanning occur, the drug use and drug paraphernalia problems have worsened. This policy punishes those whom have NO drug use in their backgrounds, and fails to address staff conduct role in any drugs and drug paraphernalia entering the facility. Further, the AFCSE union protects its members and circumvents transparency of staff-related issues by allowing the staff member(s) the opportunity to resign in lieu of disciplinary action or prosecution that would produce a paper trail. Until, and unless, a complete and thorough study by a third-party with no interest in its outcome is conducted to determine how, when, where, what, the quantity, location(s) found, and by whom, drugs and drug paraphernalia enter an IDOC facility, IDOC's mail scanning policy should terminate without delay. Thank you. (11/9/2025)

2231. I personally would not like my pictures that have sentimental value to me and also paid for by my loved ones to not be copied/scanned to the tablet and pictures being discarded/thrown away or destroyed. Besides the pictures are coming from a professional photo company and won't nor can be tainted by drugs. If you'll son't want pictures to be sent to your facilities then you'll should enable picture sharing directly through the tablet, which is considered basic function on these devices. We can't take these devices home with us therefore our pictures shouldn't be taken away from us. (11/9/2025)

2232. I think its basically violation of our rights in society its a federal offense to tamper with someone mail so why can idoc tamper with it without any consequences we cant even get pictures directly through mail anymore. Everybody cant use the picture apps and when our pictures are posted on the tablet its bad quality or its flipped over and we cant even see them so our loved ones are wasting their money (11/9/2025)

2233. I just want to be ablw to keep getting pictures (11/9/2025)

2234. Not a fan of pictures getting scanned to tablet (11/9/2025)

2235. On one hand having digital photos can be good only if he photos came straight to our tablet and we wont have to wait and extended period to recieve the pictures from our love ones. It saves space but we should'nt have a tine limit to keep them they.should.be available to look at until our release. Then the question arise about if our photos and mail is scanned then where does the original copies go? In addition have safe are our photos from any malfunction that may occur from this software, l think that's a question also (11/9/2025)

2236. Peoples scanned mail has been lost or misplaced on other peoples tablets. Scanned mail has also been monthly delayed. Scanned mail has been unreadable due to parts of the pages weren't fully scanned. (11/9/2025)

2237. T.c.c, need to do a better job and have moore staff in the mail room . its taking two weeks to get the mail on my tablets. That not right now. When u recived pic and u ask to have then

printed off it will take up to 6 mo's to get them .so how is this matter going to be dress? (11/9/2025)

2238. This violates our first amendment ""Fredom of Press."" (11/9/2025)

2239. We should not have our pictures taken away and sent a print out because our pictures goes through a company name freeprint.the pictures is never sent to a personal address nor from a personal address.the mail issued should not be printed out also because and mail that comes to IDOC is suppose to be srceened for drugs ect... (11/9/2025)

2240. This scanning mail is causing me problems because half my letter cannot be read.the bottom half is cut off, the tablet won't allow
me to scroll far enough down to read the whole letter. Furthermore, something needs to change about deleting our mail after 6 months.
(11/9/2025)

2241. This new system has been impossibly to retrieve mail to be copied, from some third party?!/I requested a copy of important mail sent to me from the p.r.b. board that was sent to me on oct. 1st. I requested a copy twice and still have not received it today is nov.9th,2025. (# a-60185-100925-1) also not even a response, or reason why.
Then, there is the very long wait, for not only incoming mail, but also outgoing mail as well. This system will not work, as the above reasons why. Please find a way to go back to us not being denied our mail.please get back with me on this matter as I would like my mail that was sent to me oct. 1st from the p.r.b. ,thank you for your time. Sincerely, John Lombardi
(11/9/2025)

2242. This is a big issue going on because other peoples mail is getting mixed up with other peoples names & being uploaded to other peoples accounts.. I have gotten two other peoples mail an photos on my tablet 3 diffrent times because they dont do there job right. Also they only leave the mail on the tablet for so long untill they delete them bacause of what ever reason. What if the person that sent us the mail or photos passes away & now we cant print the photos or letter for the long hall or what if some people are never going home? Thats not right & it needs to go back to the old way of mail. This is a big issue. (11/9/2025)

2243. This change suck! I have legal mail that came from home not a lawyer that is very important to my case and there is no way for me to get it off of my tablet. (11/9/2025)

2244. The new mail service sucks. I can't get my mail from N/A world services. I wrote them a letter seeking litature for furthering my sobriety, and I have no access to the form they sent. I have no money to purchase materials which are essential to my sobriety. (11/9/2025)

2245. Rules have changed and i have been expecting mail and never got any mail on my tablet. (11/9/2025)

2246. Bullshit that they changed the mail to tablet only i want to be able to hold n smell my mail from love ones. (11/9/2025)

2247. I belive the mail system should stay the same when i recive photos cards or letters it is personal and sentamental i want to be abable to hold and touch the origanal mail artical as my family and firends knowing they touched the same artical there is a emotional connection with this process and im personaly being robbed of this person connection with the new mail process (11/9/2025)

2248. I feel like its not fair and its taking away the sentalmental falue of hand writen letters and pictures.plus my personal pictures are not being sent back to the sender (11/9/2025)

2249. I hate the mail sitution becouse i looked foward to mail call an it sucks becouse if i get mail from my mom an my mom dies i want to havethe last mail she sent menot just on my tablet couse i dont get to take this thing home (11/9/2025)

2250. I think it sucks, because our pictures an letters are precious to us, they hold a sentimental value. (11/9/2025)

2251. I really hate the idea of my pictures being put on a tablet. My pictures are keepsakes for me and i believe they should be tangible.i dont want my personal letters posted on a tablet either. These suggested methods are so impersonal. (11/9/2025)

2252. I understand the importance of security concerns for incarceration and the increased dehumanization associated with further separating incarcerated individuals from there family and friend by denying them access to items of significance (e.i. letter, cards, photos...etc). (11/9/2025)

2253. Kind of makes mail very impersonal now i enjoy smelling the different scents that come in on my letters from home it reminds me of home (11/9/2025)

2254. Due to however the administration sees this mail thing working it really goes against what their mission statement is this in no way shape or fashion helps build strong bonds with family and our very own children it deters our family and friends from actually wanting to go through with staying in touch because the department has created so many different hurdles for.our family and friends to stay connected. Additionally the time it takes to process if the employees feel like processing our mail the wait will also deter people and family/ friends from sending mail interrupting the bonds we have taken so long to build. This was not a plan thought out in totality and its hurting the individuals in custody more than its actually protecting them from whatever the administration believes is actually occuring (11/9/2025)

2255. Well from my point of view i think its wrong because what if we want the actual mail like our kids send us drawings or coloring pages or some & we cant get the original copy just based off of drugs. Everybody doesnt do drugs so its basically everyone is getting punished for somebody else doings. Me i would rather have the original copies of my mail thats just my take on it (11/9/2025)

2256. The new mailing process is a joke. As an individual incarcerated, having the ability to

obtain letters from family members carries sentimental value. The official letter that our love ones send, not a "photocopy" of our letter. IDOC has been allowing mail to come through the facilities for decades and they waited until now to stop. Their reason is to prevent synthetics drugs from coming into the facility... IDOC staff came together to make a change in the way our mail comes in, but they refuse to improve our living conditions, our ability to gain a better education, and improve programs to reduce the recidivism rate. They refuse to come together because it does not benefit the staff or IDOC in general. Now that IDOC "solved" the problem by taking away our privilege to obtain personal written letters, lets see if they focus on improving our living conditions, education, and programs that will benefit us(individuals in custody) prior to our release. (11/9/2025)

2257. Taking away our right to recieve the original physical copy of our mail deprives the inmate population of the personal intamcy that we seek when communicating with loved ones. I believe once mail has been retained by the facility for a period of time which allows the administration to verify and confirm that the correspondence contains no threat to the safety and or security to the facility, then the mail should be able to proceed and delivered to the intended recipient. The newley implemented scanned "digital version" should merely serve as a method for the individual to temporarily view the correspondence while it is assesed for threats, not as replacement for recieving the physical mail.
(11/9/2025)

2258. Physical mail from ur loved ones is not only unique but sentimental value. A elextronic copy is not the same. They are also taking forever to scan mail and sometime not scanning at all. Disposing of it for no reason. (11/9/2025)

2259. While I completely understand the urgency for protection and safety of staff and individuals in this current time, there has to be a more beneficial and productive solution other than mail scanning. During my time of incarceration I have received mail from loved ones who have since passed away whose mail I still continue to cherish. I also receive family pictures and drawings from my nieces and nephews that I would like to keep. When asked if the mail received can be sent out instead of being disposed of, the answer was no. Since having the tablets approved this is the second system made available, all information and emails on the last system was lost. The same loss will occur with the mail scanning process. Also, the scanner has been broken for close to a month now and no mail has been received. I am still waiting on birthday cards from May. Please find a different solution other than mail scanning. (11/9/2025)

2260. Digital mail promotes saftey for both staff and IIC. I support these new proposals. However there needs to be wisdom and discression applied when screening the mail. Also there needs to be wisdom applied when handling V.A. mail, this mail needs to be given directly to the receipient. Also there seems to be an unneccessary delay when requesting copies of ones mail. One month or longer after requesting a copy is an unreasonable delay. (11/9/2025)

2261. Dont like it bc its still takes forever (11/9/2025)

2262. I think that it is a good idea to process the mail electronically but there needs to be a way for our mail from organizations like correspondence schools to get through. I have earned

multiple certificates and the were scanned in and written on so I can not keep them in my file. My graded tests from Bible studies are done the same way. (11/9/2025)

2263. I think that our mail should keep being forward to us, not placed on a screen on a tablet, because of staff is not doing their Job if there is some kinda contraband that is coming in through mailroom incoming non-privileged mail. Which the mailroom staff jib is to do the same as they are saying, scan, our mai/spot check, read through our mail to make sure there is no contraband in any ones mail/packages ,and if there non found, the individuals in custody mail is to be forward to them. There is a procedure that the mail room have if there is anything/durgs found as they claim thats been found in coming in the prosions, So they suppose to do their jobs not try to make is easy for the staff, not stand on the mailroom stand to do their jobs and hold them accountable, bit instead they want to implement a Proposed Amendment to impose New made up rules to mess with our Mail, Original mail sent to us from our Love loves, kids, grandkids, mothers, daughters, sons, friends etc. Handle, &written by them, touched by them, and Now being told we wont be able to touch nor have, and that if i want a copy of it, to request a cooy of it from the staff. Now theres another issue waiting to happen, now im going to be on their time, now, staff can say, they sent the copy, but didnt, they can say the copier is down, out of paper, out of request slips, the copy is mess up, etc, then next they they will say, file a grievance, which grievance is not fair, cause the grievance is gonna side with staff. Its all a set up individuals in custody to have issues with staff, over their own mail. This is also messing Federal Law. And there is No Federal Law that says Our Mail Got to be on a screen. Because the Mailroom staff is Not doing their job if theres some kida contraband coming in through mail.
And if there letters or magazines sprayed or soaked in intoxicating substances, as claimed, then that letter &magazine would be spoted cause the letter & magazine would show it, the its been deeped something wet. So would some want to propose a Amendment to to not make the mailroom do their job, but take mail, from My kids, love ones, spot check, see it dont hace nothing, still take my mail, place it on a screen & after six months delete my mail, which can neve get back, read nothing, & anything can happen to these tablets, or wifi, error happens knock everything out etc. Then having to ask /requesr to stafd for my mail, which gonna start more issues. This is not right, Not fair, and aginst my first Amendment right. Im against this putting Mail & Publication being put on tablets. Electronic mail should not be imposed on Individuals in custody. If an individual in custody have a first Amendment right recieve All their Real Original Mail & Publication & should be forwarded to All individuals in custody. (11/9/2025)

2264. I think this mail scan idea is a good idea and better for the inmates to access their mail all in one place. Also it will reduce build up and cludder in the living areas of paper materials etc. BUT i think idoc should also allow us to receive photos from family & friends through text on our sucure chat texting app. ALSO i think they should allow sign up or subscribe to digital editions to publications/magazines/news papres, etc... This will also reduce build up of books and magazines/papers in the living areas. Please seriously consider these suggustions i made because i think this will better inmates lives in idoc.
Also can you send me a note letting me know you got this and what you think of my suggustions. (11/9/2025)

2265. The only thing i dont like is th pictures. Would still like to get my actual pictures. But definitely understand why they doing it like they are. (11/9/2025)

2266. So far, this mail scanning has been a near total failure on our institution's part here at Western Illinois Correctional. Of the 2 items I have received electronically so far, the 1st was cutoff at the end and I still dont know what it said entirely despite THREE UNANSWERED REQUESTS to have my mail printed. All 3 requests included the document number assigned when it was scanned. The 2nd piece of scanned mail I received had no such number anywhere on it so if I wanted to request a copy, I would have no way to identify it for printing...keep up the excellent work Mt. Sterling, top notch.... Also, apparently of the original 3 scanners the mailroom had, now only 1 is currently operational and they have been "sent out" for repair. This already sounds like yet another colossal failure on IDOC and the state of Illinois only 2 months into this pilot order. Can we just get our mail back without the state interferring and screwing something else up for us? Thanks. (11/9/2025)

2267. The new mail procedure takes our real mail, pictures, etc...and does not return our mail to our family and friends further more no one knows where it goes so our family, girlfriends, friends, etc... Mail and pictures our just in the air. Also the main reason they say this new way is needed is due to the drugs being sprayed on the mail, this is laughable so i guess no c/o will be at work tommorow? Due to the fact they bring WAY more in then any postal service Facts! Also all people dont get illegal mail from either route c/o 's or postal mail, so why are we being PUNISHED??? Please really look into this (11/9/2025)

2268. Need real mail again (11/9/2025)

2269. It sucks (11/9/2025)

2270. "SOME OF THE THINGS MENTIONED ARE UNDERSTOOD AND THERE ARE SOME THAT I FEEL NEEDS TO BE EXPLAINED SO THAT A CLEAR CUT UNDERSTANDING IS MADE.
I ALSO FEEL LIKE ALOT OF ISSUES ARE SOON TO COME OVER THIS SEEING AS THOUGH THERE HAS BEEN ISSUES OF MAIL AND PHOTOS COMING UP MISSING OVER THE YEARS.
I FEEL ITS TOO EASY NOW FOR MAIL TO BE MISHANDLED IN MANY WAYS USING THIS METHOD.
OVER THE YEARS I HAD SEVERAL PIECES OF MAIL RETURNED TO THE SENDER UNOPENED WHICH INCLUDED
PEN-PAL LISTS MAGAZINES AND EVEN EDUCATIONAL PAMPLETS.
ARE WE AS THE INDIVIDUALS IN CUSTODY GOING TO BE ABLE.TO SEE THIS STATE WIDE BOOK/MAGAZINE BAN LIST??????????
CAN WE CHALLENGE MATERIAL ON THIS LIST????????? (11/9/2025)

2271. Does are comments and options really matter ..this is 2025 ...solutions ..first people were/are put in prison for what reason.. the punishment is to be removed from society as their punishment .... Why all these restrictions weapons, drugs, excape concerns yes i understand of course .. The greastest punishment is loss of family/children and the loss of time ..i know because im subjected to a wrongful conviction every day.. It doesent matter you dont believe me,with all do respect i dont care especially since i cant get any of those losses back! Those who

control these facilaties its mostly the union and they need to be receptive that it does not matter who is the inmates or law in forcement - the give and take concept is powerful when its a consideration for both sides .... If you want to get better control of certain things ne willing to give ...such as open up our tablets the same as the internet in society accept any inmates with (child porn) searches will be banded from all access activities but mail and subject to being prosecuted. We should be able to receive photo's on our own app ,able to e-mail any privilege/legal/lawyer which would also be less mail the facilities has to worry about . Alot these facilies do and dont do is for there come up mainly the commissary ...commissary and these tablets work hand in hand ..alot of us dont have people to correspond with but if we had access to pen pal web sites on these tables one way or another its gonna benefit the facilties/the system ..theres so much IDOC can do to reboot and reinvent IDOC but no one care to ask us about us. THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ALREADY BEING PUNISHED to INCARCERATION ! Why not invest in this made in the U.S. idea.
For example ive been creating multiple innovative product ideas ..one of my innovative product ideas came to me because i wanted to come up with something more comprehesive for school safty against those school shooting. This invention of mine is called THE HALO SHEILD .. yes jalo as in the angelic ring over an angels jead ,our children are those angels the sheild is defense/ protection ..it would be for all k-12 classes and faculty areas its purpose is to prevent and or minimize casualties in the invent of a school shooting school intruder. Theres more but thats the gist just to give you a glimps into what im trying share with you.Theres more let me close here and try to send this i honestly dont think this matters but what the hell.
(11/9/2025)

2272. Exelent make the jail safe (11/9/2025)

2273. Grateful (11/9/2025)

2274. Great, just keep allowing free prints and yktvs in i could care less. (11/9/2025)

2275. I loved this delivery for mail (11/9/2025)

2276. I believe this should of been done a long time ago. This ought to be implemented ASAP because there is a real problem with synthetic drugs coming into Graham Correctional Center through incoming mail and nothing being done by the Correctional Center's Administration to control this drug issue. There are many people who have health issues and have made legitimate complaints to the Wardens and other high ranking officals and are constantly ignored regarding these complaints and this constant ignoring takes its toll on ones health. I am certain this digital mail will be challenged but it needs to happen. (11/9/2025)

2277. I feel like its unfair to be punished for something i didnt do and our jail is not following their own rules (11/9/2025)

2278. I have not yet recieved mail through the mail scanning process..so i dont know how different the process is i do know that i recieved my pictures at a timely manner..and i also appreciate all the changes to the communication in idoc..it is way easier to stay connected with loved ones (11/9/2025)

2279. I hope it helps keep the drugs out. I am so tired of having to breath the smoke in the cell house i dont smoke the crazy shit that is being smoked in here andbi dont want to breath it second handed no more than the stafe dose. (11/9/2025)

2280. I thank its a good thing it will stop the drugs from coming in .I get sick of this because when people no its in the house the the warden will bring in the tack team in and destroy our rooms .I dont having anything but we all have to pay for it when someone has it its not fair to us the ones that do right. (11/9/2025)

2281. I thing this is a good way to do the mail,to eliminate drug from coming in to the facility (11/9/2025)

2282. I think it is a good thing because it makes it safer for the staff and inmates. (11/9/2025)

2283. I think that it is going to be a benefit to the inmate and the officers. (11/9/2025)

2284. If this help with the drugs problems i think it's a good thing. (11/9/2025)

2285. It was smart to change things up for everyones safety (11/9/2025)

2286. Its a very good job you guys are doing keep up the good work Thanks a lot. (11/9/2025)

2287. Its ok to a certain degree. (11/9/2025)

2288. Its slow and pointless!!! (11/9/2025)

2289. Its crazy everybody is being punished with this New Mail Situation. i don:t like it at all. But what else can we do about it? Nothing. We just have to sit in Prison an deal with whatever IDOC Passes (11/9/2025)

2290. I prefer thing to remain the same but sometimes change is good giving the certain circumstances to the situation at hand change is a must in order to protect staff and the community within the instatution (11/9/2025)

2291. It is not fair to the majority of offenders to have our personal intimate mail to be invaded as a result of a few selfish inmates that believe getting their family and friends to smuggle illegal drugs and drug perafenalia inside this penal institution for that high, those inmates should be shipped to a special joint so they can all practice their criminal craft together.
(11/9/2025)

2292. I think it's worng that the illinois department of corrections is trying to stop the mail from coming in (11/9/2025)

2293. I think its a good thing and i think its bad because some people can get they mail other people wouldnt (11/9/2025)

2294. Ive been incarcerated for 35 years and I am fully aware of the issues with drugs and contraband inside the institutions. I am also fully aware of the decades long history of restrictions placed on the mail to prevent the introduction of contraband. These attempts have never worked and it has only managed to criminalize a different segment of our support systems. First they said no lipstick or perfume on mail criminalizing our wives and girlfriends. Then it was all yhe material children use to create cards a write to their parents ie. Markers, crayons, glitter, stickers etc. Then it was the return of mail for stickers including international air mail stickers. Then it was the removal of all stamps. Even with all of these acts the situation jas not gotten any better according to whoever wants to institute this policy. Another fact that i know is that you no longer have near the amounts of heroin, crack, or cocaine in the institutions which will only open the population and staff to the higher possiblities of fentanyl exposure. It will also lead to more occurrences of attempts to introduce through the visiting rooms and more situations of introduction by corrupted and compromised staff. The dept has been chasing a ghost for the entire 3Â½ decades ive been here and have yet to catch it. I think the department is dealing qith the lesser of all possible evils. The end of personal mail will devastating for those of us who value the personalization of handwritten letters and cards from our loved ones. My most prized peice of property is a card from my passed on grandmother. That letter has done mpre for my mental health than the states entire army of mental health professionals. It was wjat ive turned to to get me through my hardest days. I suggest that if there has to be scanning of mail that it is only done to those whove violated the rules concerning mail or drug use. This will guanrantee that the very small percentage of individuals who do violated the rules will not harm the vast amount of us who dont. I hope this policy will be revoked in the apirit of the depts recent efforts at better familial connections. To be honest im saddened at what i see is happening with the lwvels of subatanve abuse and i hopw that the dept will also focus on whats causing guys to use in the first place. Maybe there needs to be a campaign informing them of whay can hapoen to their minds and bodies and the tyoes of chemicals are in the "drugs". Thank you. (11/9/2025)

2295. I am not in agreement with the amended changes made
concerning mail or publications,but because of those in
ignorance or just plain stupidity who have gotten the very
priviledge of mail restricted due to having drugs and or an unknown substance sent via mail continually,this is
the result thereof. Punish them & not alter "Our Rights". (11/9/2025)

2296. I wish for things to go the old ways-regular, paper mail. (11/9/2025)

2297. To many poeople are smoking the crap being sprayed on paper. Its insanly available still, even after the change. I for one dont want anything to do with it and if i end up celled with someone that does smoke it, i hope i can escape the situation without consequince (11/9/2025)

2298. You can nevver stop thw drugs from coming in because there is always someone in tge cut waiting to byst out they're underlying mischievious ways. (11/9/2025)

2299. This mail procedure is just another control mechanism that jails around the world use for control (11/9/2025)

2300. this is against everything the U.S.A stands for.mail is sacred in this country and should be messed with. (11/9/2025)

2301. They shouldt change it at all now they violating are right (11/9/2025)

2302. Theses rules Changes is not going to work , people who smoke or drink or sell any type of Drugs will always find New ways to Smuggle Drugs in ! There are a lot of people as myself that Dont Smoke Nor Drink that are Now being Deprived from Letters , Art Drawing , books and Etc from our children , family and friends . IDOC has enough money to buy the proper Machinary needed to check All mail for Drugs , The Airports and other prisons and jails have them ! Theses New rules changes is Determental to Idoc claims to Be in support of and encouraging building stronger family Connections. Idoc Also sadly look past there Own Staff , Theses Drugs Rarely Come Through the mail , our vistors are Searched and we are Striped Searched going in and out !!! And alot of the Stuff Idoc claim to have found thats Drugs Arent drugs ! Idoc should Reconsider theses Changes because it did not work in the federal prisons , All IDOC staff are Scanning mail months behind , we are recieving mail from months ago , so idoc staff was Withholding mail for months in antcipation or this Rule changing !! Please just purchase the Correct Machines Needed and Stop punishing us All. Thank you jordan curry #y62823 (11/9/2025)

2303. The rules are flat out wrong and out of touch (11/9/2025)

2304. the new mail system is trash! and it takes nearly a month just to receive mail,its trash! (11/9/2025)

2305. To be honest it really does not matter to me, because i do not look for mail, but if i did, i guess the part about not being able to keep photos of loved ones would make me sad. Unless it was a way i could take home when time is done. (11/9/2025)

2306. The officers already play with the mail so there isnt anyway that we can know that are mail is been coming to us because Idoc took away the legal mail cards that u have to sign for so there isnt any proof that they are plaging with the mail.I know personally that they are playing with the mail because i been waiting on some legal mail from the Illinois prison project they are partnering with Uptown people law center im going home soon & i was suppose to sign the papers to send back,but i still never received the paperwork from them yet its been well over 2 weeks & it hasnt come to me yet.I had a legal call 2 fridays ago & the lawyer ask me did i receive it & i told her no so she said there are some papers you need to sign in there & we will send u some more things to help you find job's when you are out.Dixon correctional center most defly play with the mail!Im still waiting on the mail right now today,which it only take 3-4 days for mail to be delivered.I been waiting on a response to my legal brief its been 4 months since my attorney sent that & im still waiting.I have never caught a drug ticket or personally did drugs in the prison system & im getting my mail played with like i violated the rules or something! (11/9/2025)

2307. We will see how this help's inmate's in B.M.R.C.C! (11/9/2025)

2308. I need to read more on this matter to be able to comment more on this matter. (11/9/2025)

2309. The jails dont do noting right no more (11/9/2025)

2310. Why (11/9/2025)

2311. I'm not sure why this survey is here since the policy is already in place. (11/9/2025)

2312. Yes (11/9/2025)

2313. I believe that by stopping mail its taking longer for us inmates to recieve our mail,pictures,magazines etc. Some inmates as myself have family who's not into using technology as freeprints (for pictures) corrlink (emails) to correspond with me so what am i supposed to do about recieving my mail? My mother my grandmother & other family members that are older & i dont like the concept of getting mail on the tablet. Thank you (11/10/2025)

2314. Now that the mail is on the tablet. What about the individuals in custody who are not able to get wifi connectivity in their room. Whats going to be done about that? (11/10/2025)

2315. Like what if wifi goes out and i can't read my mail or the power goes i can't look a my family photos do that return my photos or mail back to my family like i don't know this is crazy what if i transfer and thay don't have tablets yet or don't have anuff to pass out can i buy my own tablet because i like to look at my picture when ever i want or read an old letter u will never stop drugs from cummin in here because the c/o is da ones bring it in here not us (11/10/2025)

2316. How are we supposed to request our photo copies of our mail? When the facility uploads our mail sometimes the whole letter doesnt get uploaded to the tablet. Pictures get cut off, letters get cut off... (11/10/2025)

2317. How does an inmate get photocopies of scanned mail on tablet (11/10/2025)

2318. As for the pictures sent in through the mail, once put on our tablet or copied, what becomes of the actual photos? It should be our option to destroy or mail back out. (11/10/2025)

2319. I would appreiciate if when they scan our mail they scan the whole thing and not cut it off.. Also how do we get copies? (11/10/2025)

2320. Can I just have all my mail forwarded to a diffrent address... (11/10/2025)

2321. Why did i get a card that was from sept 24 2025 n i recived it nov 5 2025 now it takes longer to recive mail also people are gettin papers sayin a card was returned due to glitter its scanned now so there shouldnt be a issue but it is (11/10/2025)

2322. Why is legal mail taking so long what if there are court dead lines we are going to miss i can show proff of receipt that its taken on multiple occasions over 3 weeks to get legal mail that

was sent to me also if are family is sending photos to us and pay money for that then why arent we afforded the opportunity to send the pictures home after the prison scans them onto our tablet youre just throwing our stuff away along with cards and things of that nature also if our family and friends send mail and its now being scanned then our kids should be able to send us colored pictures since we are never getting them except on the tablet so why cant we get them also as well since they are being scanned and we never have possession of them there is alot that needs to be fixed because there are lawsuits that are going to come behind the way things are done because every prison isnt implamenting rhe same thing and they should (11/10/2025)

2323. I believe idoc should just put a app on here whereas our family can send us pictures and greeting cards like the secure chat app, of course a fee will be added but it beat having mail stored for six months and so forth, so again i believe you should allow our family to send pictures straight to our tablets and of course the prison vet them (11/10/2025)

2324. I believe yall should have a test for any contraband and allow us to have our mail and books. Your causing more work for yourselfs and useing unneeded resourses by haveing someone scan every piece of mail when a simple swab test would be sufiecent (11/10/2025)

2325. I do feel it will be much safer not only 4 the staff but also the individuals in custody as well. As 4 the restictions on the publications we are able 2 receive they should be open 2 expanding them now. (11/10/2025)

2326. I dont think we should get are mail through a tablet i think we should still recieve are papper mail and if they do put it on the tablet they should give us a option to send it home or destroye it befor they put it on the tablete (11/10/2025)

2327. (11/10/2025)

2328. If IDOC worked with IC Solutions to add a feature to the messaging system that allowed contacts to send attachments with documents or pictures, then it would almost eliminate the need for a mailroom at all. It would reduce the need for people to open, scan and send mail to every inmate. It would also speed up the mail delivery system. (11/10/2025)

2329. If I am filing my clemency and my family is doing all the leg work. This is not considered legal mail. I have to get this packet notorized and copies made. I just ask that this type of mail not be scan and sent to my tablet and I can get the orginal copy of this packet. Thank you (11/10/2025)

2330. I would like to say that IDOC could do better without penalizing eveyones mail preiviledge. You could allow our people to send our photo directly to the tablet. You could penalize only the ones who abuse the mail system, you could also allow peole out of thier rooms more. People who are suffering as addicts are crammed in a room for tweenty plus hours a day i'm in a medium facility. It 2025 , my mental health has been negatively affected by this kind of lockdown. This is a steel door and for some reason the dayroom is off limits 99% of the day. Thses individuals have been crying for help. Addicts.
I also would like for my property to be sent back to my family things like pictures ,obituraries

should not be trashed after six months. (11/10/2025)

2331. I think that we should get our mail that comes from the courts or an attorney or a school or newpapers & magazines other than that they should keep the stuff out because of the drugs ... (11/10/2025)

2332. to be able to download our photosvand letters and cards for the holidays into the gallery app so we have them permanetly (11/10/2025)

2333. Well' Goodday,
Give soms kind of alert of notification to incoming postal-mail. I check my box consistantly in curiosity.
Thankyou so kindly. (11/10/2025)

2334. Allow hardcover books again, Allow for the avalability for mail to be printed or a copy to be provided faster. (11/10/2025)

2335. What should be done is that only those who have been put on the mail watch list who have recieved diciplinary action from either smoking or actual possesion of the paper should have their mail scanned. Not all individuals in custody because even though we are all imprisoned doesn't mean we should all be punished for some dumb asses who do stupid shit Like if thats the case we shpuld start to be able to get drawings from our kids again if you are scanning all the stuff that was paper related meaning cards, lip-printed handwritten letters should be allowed to be scanned since all mail should be handled using gloves so we can appreciate the sentiments which helpos keep families stronger and closer in general.
Thank you (11/10/2025)

2336. Why are individual mail being taking in the first place ? Then if its from lace paper then why haven't any mailroom people got sick or high from the so call lace people ? Then also why not just take the individual who had it sent in or who have been getting high and needed medical attention because of the lace paper ? I believe every officer should be drug tested weekly and they should not no when they getting tested also thank you !! (11/10/2025)

2337. With the mail being on the tablet now, we should have the opportunity to send a self addressed stamped envelope to the mail room to send the original letters and pictures home. (11/10/2025)

2338. Mail should be scanned for contraband then sent to the inmate as regular mail. (11/10/2025)

2339. I am indifferent about the paper mail but people should get thier physical photos no matter where they come from because there's no garenty that staff isn't going to keep the more intimate pictures. (11/10/2025)

2340. I think it violates my constitutional rights (11/10/2025)

2341. I think it will make things harder for us and our families, mainly on recieving photos because they will be only held for six months and photos are keepsakes especially since some of our loved ones are no longer wit us. Anything can happen wit these tablets and for it to be holding our mail is not right time is hard enough already. (11/10/2025)

2342. The new changes are inhumanely unconstitutional as they dehumanize inmates through deprivation of recieving original mail recieved from personal supporting members ken and/or known to them. Especially through depriving inmates of recieving books from family and anyone other than publishing companies. Rehabilitation methods has just been pushed back 100 years. (11/10/2025)

2343. THAT IS A HORRIBLE WAY TO PUNISH ALL INMATES STOPPING INCOMING MAIL ALL INMATES ARENT SMOKING OR GETTING DRUGS INSIDE THE JAILS SO WHY PUNISH ALL INMATES FOR PEOPLES WRONG DOING PUNISH THOSE WHO GET CAUGHT NOW PEOPLE WHO HAVENT DID ANYTHING CANT GET MAIL AND IT MAKES TIME HARDER THAN IT IS THIS CAUSES MORE STRESS AND MORE PROBLEMS POINT BLANK (11/10/2025)

2344. Its not goin to stop the drugs from coming in thetr bringing in for outside help and the k-2 is being mafe right under your nose in the facility itself wake up and smell the coffee (11/10/2025)

2345. This is against are rights because are loved ones are taking time off of work to send us letters that we dont receive do to the changes (11/10/2025)

2346. Some people might get a letter from a loved one who passes away and a letter like that is very important to a prisoner, and we should have the option of having a letter that our loved ones actually touched. (11/10/2025)

2347. Here at Illinois River Cc when a printed copy of mail is requested from the mail room we are being told they dont have a machine to print copies for us so they cant provide a physical copy of the mail scanned to individuals in custody. The reasons the mail room is able to deny photos is too broad currently. Illinois River CC considers a male at the beach with their shirt off as nudity. The term altered photos is too broad of a term as well. A photo that is zoomed in on or has a filter applied may be considered alter. The goal of these provisions is to prevent material from coming in that threatens security or is obscene. These issues should be addressed. I am glad Illinois River CC allows us original photos sent from publication companies (11/10/2025)

2348. Here at logan they dont care about inmates mail the officers here want a easy job they dont care that we have family, kids or that we are not able to ordar books here on our own becauae thats what the policy says inmate are suppose to ordor there own book its not fare i undersand we put are selfs in here but we should still be able to have are family ordor us books so we can get and read and the mail process shouldnt take 5months for inmates to get mail its going to be 1month and a half i havent gotten my cross word book from amazon and my roomate havent gotten her books from the mailroom for 6months its just not right its unfare now i see why people in here kill them self or fight and do other stupid things because mail makes a big

difference books keep inmates busy out the way. (11/10/2025)

2349. honestly i have no problem with regular mail being scanned to our tablet, with the option of getting that mail printed off if needed by that individual. i do have a problem with the photos being scanned. if our pictures are coming directly from a picture company like pelipost, shutterfly, etc. they should not be scanned. pictures are captured moments that we are missing with our love ones. for example, i was incarcerated before my only child was born. i have physical photos of my son immediately after his birth and being held by his mother as he takes his first breathes in this world. to take away physical pictures that are safely mailed through a photo publisher ignore these type of intimate moments we would never be able to share ourselves. printing them on simple paper is easily destroyed, demaged, etc. in addition to the fact that our family has purchased these photos through this company at no cheep price to provide us with quality photo paper that last and can be cherished. so i ask u to please consider letting our photos be mailed directly from a photo publisher, to us without being scanned. the same policy you guys set for magizines and books. please dont take those cherish moments away from us. where on the tablet that intimate moment will be deleted after 6 months never to have again. thank you. (11/10/2025)

2350. Hi, my name is Mason Thomas Dowson or S04867, but I am more than just a number! Im gonna sue IDOC for not giving me all of my pro se appeal work that I had mailed to me here in GCC..... not once..... But twice..... With the second time being sent by first class mail and I even have proof of the reciept that a C/O signed for it being that it was certified mail! How often does the IDOC interfere by denying its inmates of being able to meet their deadlines in appealing their cases? How is that justice? How do you justify that?
I would appreciate at least an excuse of why I am being denied my own legal work! Do not worry about how effective your department has been in allowing me to seek justice for myself in fighting my own case because thanks to you guys I have since hired an attorney that is not only helping overturn the verdict from my jury trial.... But is also going to help me by suing the IDOC! Thank you! (11/10/2025)

2351. Discontinuing physical mail is not condusive to the betterment of individuals in custody housed under IDOC. More strenuous and thorough searches of mail can be done by staff to ensure the safety and security of all IDOC facilities currently providing scanned mail to its individuals. We are not offered our mail in a timely manner. It is taking months to recieve scanned items due to lack of staff and pure carelessness. The same amount of time taken to scan mail can in turn be used to properly search it if mail is going to be recieved months later. All individuals in custody should not have to be held at the same standard as individuals that choose to violate department rules and state laws using mailed in items. (11/10/2025)

2352. Causes problems due to family pictures or obituary being misplaced and or destroyed which will cause real problems eventually and paper copies wont last and how will it be funded ? Im not going pay for something im already entitled to! (11/10/2025)

2353. I've had mail sent by loved ones and you still will not scan it after its been at facility for over a 60 days (11/10/2025)

2354. On more then one occasion my legal mail was uploaded to the tablet. These were legal documents that I needed to be signed & mailed back by a certain date, I have missed two court dates because of this inconvension. I have even had other individuals mail uploaded to my tablet. My family has sent me pictures through freeprints which is a third party company. My family can not physically touch the pictures yet my pictures are uploaded to my tablet & the orginals a thrown away instead of asking if I would like to send me home. (11/10/2025)

2355. There should be no 6 month limit on mail being removed. There should be an option to remove your mail from ur inbox if u want to and it should be saved in there permanently if you want it to because some people want to keep personal pictures sent in on their tablets if its not sent by the company and in a personal envelope sent from the house, it will be copied on the tablet. Second there should be a option thats connected to the mailroom to press print instead of sending a request. You can just simply type the document number and press print and it will send a message to the system to do so. (11/10/2025)

2356. I feel as if I have not been in any trouble far as contrabrand or been misusing the mail then I feel that my postal mail should not be bothered for I have Grandkid's and would like to recieve a drawing or letter from them in it's original form due to the fact i've been gone 20 plus years certain things hold different value (11/10/2025)

2357. This is the worse thing to do now mail is so far behind we are not getting any mail on our tablets idoc is lying and holding our mail which is a federal offense (11/10/2025)

2358. This is unconstitutional and we is not in a max security. (11/10/2025)

2359. Our mail has so many restrictions already we arent allowed to receive most things. We cant even receive pictures our kids draw or any photos from our loved ones that are anything except basic prison photos, (arms down at your sides and facing forward). They arent even allowed if they have an emoji in the picture. We are constantly told we arent allowed to receive so many letters, picture, publications, etc and now you want to take away more because of drugs?? If you look at studies done in other states that have implemented similar proceedures you'll see that there is only a slight drop in the amount of drugs introduced into the prison systems. This tells you that it is a much larger problem then what is going through the mail. We should not be punished further because those in charge cannot control the prisons and are looking for an "out" to blame it on. (11/10/2025)

2360. We should be able to get our mail and in a timely manner.... (11/10/2025)

2361. Well i am just sayingit is going too make it hard for those that do not know how too use the tablet like me i am learing. (11/10/2025)

2362. Do we get our mail that means alot to us like cards from family members (11/10/2025)

2363. I do not think these changes should be made. As a individual in custody who is serving decades in prison being able to hold letters and pictures that come directly from loved ones is important. Mentally and emotionally being able to hold a letter an pictures from my loved ones is

extremely important. I have lost many loved ones since i have been incarcerated and the only possessions i have from them is letters and pictures. To be only able to view these letters and pictures on a tablet for a limited time makes one feel disconnected. Another issue with trying to make these changes happen is the thought of my loved ones personal thoughts, feelings, and personal information not to mention physical likeness be placed on a digital platform where there is always the possibility of being leaked. To be completely honest just the thought of these changes being made gives alot of individuals in custody anxiety. In a time where IDOC says they are doing more to keep individuals in custody and families "in touch", it feels as though they are trying to build a gap. The alleged purpose is trying to diminish " drugs". What is needed is more programming, rehabilitative practices, and mental health education. (11/10/2025)

2364. I feel like taking the mail was a very bad decision due to the sentimenal value that physical mail has like in my situation i still posses the last letters that both of my parents sent me prior to them both passing my mother passed in 2015 & my father passed in 2019 when im sad i go to those letters i use them for comfort so i wish physical mail still come in because having digital mail isnt the same so please allow mail to come back in we need it for sentimental value if nothing else thank you (11/10/2025)

2365. My mother is sickly. So every letter is in fact a memorry of her and her words. I, and other people incarcerated are filled with anger. It is the people that we hold dear that keep people like me from trying to hurt others. So if you take away the ability to go back to her words you put others including staff in harms way. (11/10/2025)

2366. I believe that this change will effect my/our ability to communicate with family especially older family memebers who are not tech savy. Also written word is more personal and heartfelt in a place where feelings are rare but needed to survive amd stay socialble. (11/10/2025)

2367. Do you guys think that want to have the letters, so if the person past before they get out i really think its wrong not to give them the letters! (11/10/2025)

2368. Although i get why department want to change rule i just feel it takes away ths comfort of having something sent from a loved one like i've been incarcerated for almost 17yrs and i have a letter my daugther wrote on when she was only a few months old and thats not something a printed copy of can recreate. (11/10/2025)

2369. I dont believe that we should receive our mail thru the tablet. I have alot of time to do and letters from my family are very important to me. A card or letter might be the last thing i get from them and now that has been taken away from me. (11/10/2025)

2370. I don't think that it is fair that i can not recieve my physical mail and drawings from my 10 and 11 year old children or pictures from my family when i have never uesd any drugs inside of IDOC and have been in complete complience with the rules and regulations of the department of corrections and i feel like my individual rights are being broken. There is no reason i should have to lose my mail privilage instead of those concerned doing a better job of screening incoming mail. (11/10/2025)

2371. I understand why IDOC wants to change the mail system to the tablet but for the people that are not involved in trying to get whatever it is they are getting in here are suffering or have to suffer by not getting the accual letters or cards that are sent to us from loved ones and getting them on the tablet is not the same as getting the real mail from them and/or loved ones. Thank you for the time to let me express my opinion about this issue. (11/10/2025)

2372. I don't agree to these changes. It is already hard to your pictures, mail, and cards from loved one's. I like having my real picture's and cards. I would not like to have picture's of picture's or picture's of my card's. I'm sorry but i'm old and like to keep things simple. (11/10/2025)

2373. Im not happy about us not being able to have our pictures in our possession, i have pictures from 20 years ago that are sentamental to me. (11/10/2025)

2374. Taking our mail away is going to be heart breaking for us who has 20 plus years to do in prison. Our love ones will die and that mail is all that is left of them. I have 60 years to do and mail is something that is important to me! You will delet mail after 180 days not good. Also this will not what you think it will. You need to punish those who are.doing wrong not all of us (11/10/2025)

2375. This is bullshit, if Our family sends us pictures and letters after so many days they get took of the tablet. Our family bought the pictures and write outs n stamps for us to have and to keep.. (11/10/2025)

2376. I rather get the real mail wat happens when yo ppl go buy u birthday or holiday cards (11/10/2025)

2377. I dont like the department changes because it destroys your mail after you read the scanned version.being incarcerated is hard,so family connection is important because of the feeling of love,connection and support that you get from your family.It makes you feel good on days when your sad or hurting from being incarcerated that you can look back on letters and cards to bring your energy and mood back up because it recreates that same feeling of love and connection when your able to re-read those cards and letters,however now our mail is being destroyed never again to be seen.if someones dies,that card or letter a love one sent may be all you have left of that person and now its being destroyed. Its heart breaking (11/10/2025)

2378. I feel as though things were always headed in this direction in order to further disconnect justice impaxted individuals from actual mail. First, It has an overwhelming psychological effect upon the mental processes of information especially mail from loved ones. It doesnt allow the mind to connect with the realities of oneness with the outside world, preventing the senses from taking in the natural essence of the physical mail and the chemical reaction that is recorded to help fight against despair and hopelessness. Second, I understand the threat of illicit drugs but I have been in the system since I was a pre-teen and the idea of us not getting mail some day have always been around. The truth of that idea became reality with the Administrative Detention justice impacted individuals even though, it was a topic of discussion during a meeting with one of the leading criminal psychologist Dr. Shein in 1952 or 62 during a gathering of prison

wardens aboit breaking down the minds of their prisoners. It is just part of the process to break the minds of the people because drugs has always been apart of the criminal element and prison is the incubator from the criminal mind. Sorry! We need the power of truth to help us not digitally reading our mail. (11/10/2025)

2379. I feel that wrong due to people have trouble reaching out to they family and then when you do get to your family this happen what if you have a death you got to wait until the last min just to find out that mess with out mental all we got is mail phone to look foward to . so i feel like they should use other people actions to affect the whole prison . that not right some of these people dont care they got a whole lot of time so they dont care about the rest of us that here it put all us as a whole in a f up predicament . (11/10/2025)

2380. Its bogus because the sentamental value of my nieces ,nephews and moms art pics letters is now took away. (11/10/2025)

2381. The proposed mail change isnt fair, for letters and cards are keepsakes from friends family and loved ones to be cherished and reflected upon when certain moods or events accur, stopping individuals in custody from receiving actual pieces of mail will only remedy the smallest portion of drugs and or other contraband from entering the prison system. (11/10/2025)

2382. The new rule regarding incoming mail is traumatizing, because we no longer are able to recieve the actual mail our family,loved one's and certain business' and vendors send,also it takes an extra ammount of time to get the mail on our tablets. Also,some of us are being punished without ven breaking the mail rules in the first place,this rule is being implemented without Due Process. My Wife has semt me some pictures, and Clemency paperwork that i have to figure out how to re-type to file...its just a new source of anxiety and trigger for my Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. The Government should give me 50% on mu sentence so i can go home,since everything in here is a punishmemt to me with no Good Conduct Credit or Early Release. REPEAL TRUTH-IN-SENTENCING!!!! (11/10/2025)

2383. I don't believe their should'nt have been any changes to the mailing system because the mailing already had a system in place to stop ilegal items from coming into the prison system which had the mail begged up as it is now on top that they barely got income mail now we don't get to touch physcial mail that our family or business has sent to us which seem wrong we already have many things that are take frim us,having a connection to the world and touching physcial gives us the strength to get throw the day now we will be turn into mindless droons pushing buttons to see if we have mail and the last thing I would say is if the mailing system has changed to help stop ilegal item from coming into the prison then you no longer need a ful mail staff to push a button (11/10/2025)

2384. My comment on this issue is that the mail stay the same and get better. (IDOC), shouldn't be able to do the things they are doing with the mail. This is our resident, this is some of these guys home for life. They shouldn't have to get pictures or memories put on a tablet, were in couple of days get wiped clean. Fall pictures help us get through hard times. Please don't change the mailing. It already takes many days to get ourail now. If you change the rules, it will take even longer to get our mail. That's including legal mail. We don't get our mail on time, and

people have deadlines they have to meet. Cause the mail getting to them late, they have to file for extensions. These people is not worried about drugs getting into the jails, they just trying to do anything that will create more jobs for there friends and family. They see by Edovo and the phone being on the tablets, crime within the prison and jails have gone down. And theres no problems, so they want to create problems. (11/10/2025)

2385. I feel like the mail is running slower,now. (11/10/2025)

2386. I got one letter, but it said i had 2'of2, but could not see my second page. (11/10/2025)

2387. First,let me say thanks for trying to stop the flow of drugs from coming in by the mail .However its not going to work ! My one concern is i cant recieve my pictures from love ones (copy) they only say on the tablet for up to ten months i still have time to do in ldoc and when my people past away im not going to have nothing to look at and remember them by .So, can you please allow us to get our pictures that come from an outside vendor. (11/10/2025)

2388. I dont like the whole scanning mail on the tablet thing. When they scan our mail its being scanned sloppy to where we dont get the whole address or the whole letter! (11/10/2025)

2389. I dont thibk the mail room is up an running properly. Its extremely slow (11/10/2025)

2390. I dont like it. What if i want to keep my pictures but the new system deletes them after 6 months i think that is trash! (11/10/2025)

2391. They dont scan the mail all the way, i would rather be able to have my actual letters. Since their coming from another prison not from people in the community. (11/10/2025)

2392. The mail rule is not right it violates our rights and make
Our time hard.if i were to get a obituary they saying that i
Would only have 6 months with it then it would erase off my tablet
(11/10/2025)

2393. They need to go back to regular mail policy childsupport mail comes and we cant even respond properly because the return envelope and paper was scanned and not given to us also why should we recieve our family photos scanned instead of given to us especially when the photos get deleted after so long this is not fair some people would like to keep those lifetime memories.
(11/10/2025)

2394. My comment is that once the incoming mail from family and friends come in, no copy of the letter's will be made. So when it come time for an individual to be released and have to turn in his or her tablet, icsolutions will be the only entity with a record of those unforgettable memories. This system has already posed a problem because another person's mail was sent to the wrong person's tablet through human error. Nice try though, i umderstand the effort to make IDOC safe for staff and individuals in custody! (11/10/2025)

2395. Its whatever (11/10/2025)

2396. I have no comments. (11/10/2025)

2397. Do Not Agree (11/10/2025)

2398. I want paper mail instead of virtual (11/10/2025)

2399. Love it (11/10/2025)

2400. I liked i hoop evrithing be good. (11/10/2025)

2401. Im glad that the rules have change. (11/10/2025)

2402. Cool good with me (11/10/2025)

2403. I feel like the mail bein done this way is more safe. (11/10/2025)

2404. I belive thats its a good change for the prison system (11/10/2025)

2405. I dont thank they should change the mail. (11/10/2025)

2406. I think it is a good idea. (11/10/2025)

2407. I am thankful and agree that these drastic steps where necesary to ensure safety and ensure we can still receive publications. (11/10/2025)

2408. I agree with the changes being made. Something needs to be done to stop the flow of incoming controband into these facilities. I just hope the changes dont affect the timeline of mail coming in to us in custody. (11/10/2025)

2409. This is essentially mass punishment. Individuals who partake in Nefarious activity and in violation of institutional rules shall be subject to Mail Screening precautions to curb the flow of illicit material. Individuals in custody who obide and have no further disiplinary or ivestigative reports shall recieve hard\physical copies of their mail from friends and loved ones. Thanks! (11/10/2025)

2410. I feel like it will be much safer not only 4 staff but 4 individuals in custody as well. (11/10/2025)

2411. I think it is one route shutdown for people to get drugs into the corrections centers good job on closing that door (11/10/2025)

2412. I think it was better when we actually received our letters and pictures in person instead of thru the tablet (11/10/2025)

2413. I think its okay could be better. (11/10/2025)

2414. I think it will cost more and be time consuming to scan every piece of mail coming in. It is already frustrating with how long it takes to recieve our mail so this is going to be more of an incovienence to the Department of Corrections, in my opinion. (11/10/2025)

2415. If its help us im all for it
(11/10/2025)

2416. I think the mail being scanned will in fact reduce drug use. (11/10/2025)

2417. I understand why rule is trying be emplemted but also what to say are mail is copied wrong or picture are deformed. I believe we should still allowed get mail sent it. (11/10/2025)

2418. I would like to say it is a good system to have in place to combat the influx of drugs but it has its draw backs because im certain it will take mail longer to get to inmates which is an inconvience that will and can cause unneeded stress to us because sometimes we look forward to mail getting to us in a certain amount of time also im almost certain it will cause those of us who rely on organizations that offer us free books that r not neccessarily a company to either to stop us from getting needed reading material to slowing up the process keep in mind everyone doesnt have support out their so we rely on these free organizations to send us fres reading materials so for these reasons and more i think it is good but i also think their should be some more updates to what can and cant come directly from who (11/10/2025)

2419. Im glad the rules have change when coming to incoming mail. (11/10/2025)

2420. Its ok with mr (11/10/2025)

2421. Suxks ass (11/10/2025)

2422. No thanks (11/10/2025)

2423. These changes are going to slow down an already severely bogged down system. It already takes several weeks tonget return mail and in some cases I've seen replies to mail take months to reach us inside because the mail room consistently gets backed up. I dont see how this change could do anything but slow it even further. If they trully want to implement something like this then they need to also bring in more staff to handle it so that the process can be sped up instead of slowed further. (11/10/2025)

2424. This is an unjust unfair policy to add more restrictions against inmates.the restrictions against us are already through the roof. (11/10/2025)

2425. This is punishing 99% of the people incarcerated for 1% of the bad apples 1% shouldnt dictate the majority u all have to do better and not take away our mail (11/10/2025)

2426. You can do better with the mail coming in (11/10/2025)

2427. Its horrible its a slower process then the original way (11/10/2025)

2428. I dont like it! I dont find it fair to the inmates that are not a part of the drug problem in prisons! Yes i understand we cant have drugs being brought into the prisons but i find that it should be on the state to hire more help so the mail can be checked more theroly and not taken out on is all. (11/10/2025)

2429. I dont like it becuse now we cant get mail and can only look at our pictures threw the tablet and they get deleted after so long (11/10/2025)

2430. I believe that mail should stay the same, and the only reason i say this is because, i believe that officers are faking on being exposed to drugs thats coming through the mail. For example how is that the post office personal are not falling out, or the indiviuals in custody who recieve it, or the IA personal who test these so called paper drugs. I think its a joke and that the C/0's are trying to trick the state out if hazzord pay. And time off. (11/10/2025)

2431. I do not think that mail scanning will increase the safety of IDOC. Many studies I have read through various prisoner support organisations has shown that not only did mail scanning not help with the drug problem in other departments of corrections, but drug use actually increased. This seems like another way to reduce work for corrections officers and dehuminize individuals in custody at the same time while spending even more taxpayer money to keep people incarcerated. (11/10/2025)

2432. Its a good idea itll stop some of the drugsbfrom coming in. You will just have to figure out the legal mail part. K2 is destroying peoples minds in here and its coming from the legal mail. (11/10/2025)

2433. Honestly,i feel the mail changes is not the end all be all to this issue. Because indiviualls in custody are not the only people involved in the drugs/drug laced mail/papers getting into these facilites. The real issue is staff as well,because they walk around chewing tabacco or smoking on facility groungs when that has been out lawed years ago. But to satisfy or cover up truth clouded lies (sounds crazy right), its easiest to solely blame US/INDIVIUALS IN CUSTODY. Has any staff been found to have brought any thing of the sort inside these facilities? And honestly what has truly come from such acts (involving these staff-members) if nothing at all,yet we're the ones being subjected to all the changes. So honestly,this really and truly has to be an honest messure taken on all levels with staff as well. Becuase the things that has happened with my mail being sent to other indiviuals is unsafe to us our families and friends alike. Information of civilans is involved when some push a button and share ones mail addresses ect. with people other then it was intended to be sent to. Also i dont understand how i can buy naked magazines of a woman i dont know, yet when my lady friend or woman send those same type photos they are rejected by mail staff at the facility. Make such an act make sence to me please??? (11/10/2025)

2434. It better work. Im sick & tired of the f**king drugs in here (11/10/2025)

2435. This rule will NOT stop the use of drugs in prison. Anyone saying the mail is being used

to smuggle in chargers or electronics is completely illogical. If someone can smuggle in a phone charger hidden in a book, or anything else for that matter, someone isnt even trying to do their job. As far as drugs, they will continue to be here, just at a much higher price, further burdening the family and loved ones of those incarcerated. Their money will now go to the greedy officers and conselors who will continue to bring it in. You cant stop the use of drugs in prison by stopping mail, its acinine to think that weapons are being smuggled in that way. Its entirely unnecessary. Ive tried to get mail printed to view in my cell ive been waiting a month for already. Ive also had to destroy mail because the "pamphlet was too big". It was religious mail. For the lack of better words the whole process is just stupid. People just doing waaaaay too much. The mail is the least of many major issues here in prison. So as i said, its all just stupid. (11/10/2025)

2436. I dont understand the mail stuff so i dont care any way because i dont get mail any way (11/10/2025)

2437. I dont understand why you guys are punishing everyone for this. Ive been incarcetated for 5 years and ive seen many people get in trouble for getting paper drugs sent in. The problem has nothing to do with inmates and everything to do with the staff in the mail room. I believe the department of corrections should be thorough with every piece of mail and make sure every page goes through the proper procedure that gets "some" people caught with these paper drugs. How come only some are getting caught but not all? Ill tell you why, due to lazy staff and careless employers. Idoc actually dosnt care about the convicted felons they house and i believe that the department of corrections is doing this on purpose to further us farther from society. The fact of the matter is as long as every facility has a med line and opiate treatment program some inmates will always get find a way to intoxicate themselves. Idoc needs to sharpen up their control and be more involved with their mail rooms and work harder this is just a lazy substition, some people have to spend the rest of their lifes in these facilities and that mails the closest thing theyll have to their loved ones to hold during a mental break down. These men pay with years of their lifes and idoc is taking away more than theyve already lost. The judge decides our fate, and not everyone gets high. But the ones that do shame on them and to the department of corrections, bigger shame on you for taking the easy lazy way out. CRACK DOWN ON YOUR OFFICERS WORKING THE MAILROOMS (11/10/2025)

2438. Me recieving mail in the form the deparetment has decided to use is out right wrong.first of all,The IDOC staff created a fake health scare regaurding them (the staff) getting sick by touching in coming mail .was impossible.because for them (the staff)to get sick from touching the mail,that mean the U.S postal people had to get sick also .because they (The U.S Postal) touched the mail first.before it even reach the IDOC.which never happen.second,the staff in the idoc mail room would have had to get sick from opennning the mail and inspecting it for contraband.which never happen.only the staff who passed the mail out to the inmates are the ones who claimed they got sick.which is false.and to prove it,haven't no staff claimed they got sick since they got their approval from the court to allow electronic mail.but the staff is still passing out solid mail to us.The Staff Was Bogus For Creating A Fake Health Scare. And the inmates is suffering from it. (11/10/2025)

2439. Thwy say if mail is stained we cant recive but it shouldnt matter if the mail get put on our

tablets we are auffering for things we can not change! (11/10/2025)

2440. We are tired of IDOC continually overriding the law and policizing their way around our basic human rights!! This policy is aimed around our saftey to stop substances from entering our facilities these substances are being brought in from your staff whom are way over paid and have learned how to hide behind the union that protects them they are typically very lazy high on pot and chomping at the bit to be on their phone and all of the complaining that they do about the substances used by inmates is meer gaslight to draw attention off of them and to be a foundation of argument to serve their lazyness and greed and we us inmates are continually bearing the concequinces of this having our basic human rights violated this bleeds into our manditory out of cell time our ability to earn Earned program sentence credit our ability to be recievieng education our mail andnpictures from our familys this is a slippery slope that has been stepped out on and needs to be immeidatly corrected! I.D.O.C does not care if it gets sued and would rather pay a lawsuit (if im correct the tax payer actually pays the law suit more reson that IDOC would not care as it is of no consecuience to I.D.O.C) than ever admit fault!! I.D.O.C has grown very accustomed to the power they hold and realizes that admitting fault would be catastrophic to the buisnes andbwould serve as a direct pointer to all of the lies and corruption within the buisnes of warehousing humans!! (11/10/2025)

2441. You cannot scan mail it is not legal and no one in idoc wants this to happen but the administration. The mail is not the problem, its a problem with officers bringing things in. If officers would stop the problem would be 80% better. You are hurting small buisness who make cards and pictures you are hurting the american people this is noy making america great again at all. (11/10/2025)

2442. It doeant matter what i think these poeple are gonna do what they want regardless (11/10/2025)

2443. What happens to all original mail does it go in the trash ? If mail is backed up by 2 months how far back is property backed up . will this make the process longer for us to get our mail? (11/11/2025)

2444. What happens to our mail if something goes wrong with the tablets? Do we lose our pictures an letters. What about the things we cant replace. Like pictures or lost family members! What about court papers that arent marked legal but i'll need to keep for court purpose. (11/11/2025)

2445. I got a tv guide sent to me from the company(subscriber)and a renewal form was inside . I got the tv guide but not the form. You all kept the form.That's not right. You said I can recieve mail as long as it is from a subscriber. Now how am I suppose to renew my tv guide subscription. It seems to me you all are trying to stop us(me) from recieving any magazines. Give me my renewal form so I(we) can continue my subscription. This needs to be fixed . (11/11/2025)

2446. I know I have mail I got a letter a month
Late! This new system isn't working, The

Mailroom Staff are either under staffed or they just don't care to get us our mail in
A timely matter! Plus there are Two REDACTED here at Illinois River C.C. so
I fear my mail is going to this other man
With my name but different I.D. number.
He has a K-number, and I have a R-number
.. I get News papers from San Fransico Bay
View News paper. And two months no new
Paper! I get school work from Penn Foster
High School and 3 of my school workbooks
With my exams never made it to me, Because I believe my mail is going to this
Other man. Paper mail was better then this
New mail system, Please fix this problem!
(11/11/2025)

2447. I think its a good thing i just need to know what happen to the hard copy (11/11/2025)

2448. Why cant i read my incoming mail family are telling me has been sent to this prison weeks ago on this tablet since no officer came and gave to me? (11/11/2025)

2449. What change did you guys make (11/11/2025)

2450. We should continue to receive mail the regular way. (11/11/2025)

2451. For the safety of staff i think it should be done on a different level as to people sending in religious literature (11/11/2025)

2452. I belive that its the right answer to things but upon clearing mail from any malfescence then it should be given to the individual in custody that it is addressed to. (11/11/2025)

2453. I do believe it may help the problem, but nothing will completely aleviate the issue in its totality. Also its different having physical mail like letters or cards from our loved ones as well as photos. I believe we should atleast be allowed to have our photos as long as they are sent from Freeprints or a reputable vendor. (11/11/2025)

2454. I think that if your mail tests positive for traces of drug products or residues then further investigations should take place. Testing the other pieces that it may have came in contact with. Then verify if the person getting the mail has been in trouble for drug,drug paraphenella,dangerous contraband, or contraband. Then take further action based on disciplinary actions from recent incidents. Taking away and storing physical mail takes up alot of space and man power to rotate mail. I know that this is a new battle to try to conquer but not all people should be held accountable for others actions. I think even if other c/o's even smell it they should make the imates cuff up and go to SEG for the fact that the drug didn't light itself. So a spark or a flame should still be considered arson. Carries a max of 2yrs in seg,loss of good time, loss of in person visits,commissary,gym and yard, etc. So just because you don't catch them with the drugs itself doesn't mean that there aren't loop holes to keeping them isolated or moved to a new facility. Change of security status. Force the change of inmates. Those who see the outcome

of what happens when you get caught majority may stop and self correct. And those who don't end up in facilities where real criminals are.
There's always the dumb alternative tell them to turn in the drugs and we will allow you to drink. Way less code 3's when people drink. It's not a better solution but its better than anything I've seen so far. Besides could always try to use the idea as bait. Turn your drugs in for alcohol , then walk them for the drugs.
But i would vote NO for taking away physical mail. I get the idea of controlling what comes in til an officer is compromised then brings it in. Then you haven't defeated any problem. But just created a new one. (11/11/2025)

2455. If they are coming straight from a 3rd party, those materials including photo albums, individual photos, books, calenders, etc. should be allowed. (11/11/2025)

2456. Incoming and outgoing legal and privileged mail should be logged in and the correctional staff should be required to obtain a signature from prisoners to confirm actual receipt. Prisoners should be able to obtain from the institutions mailroom a monthly print out of the outbound and inbound legal and privileged mail log. For outbound mail -Certified Mail receipts and Return receipts (Greencards) should be filled out by prisoners upon request; which means correctional staff have to keep them stocked in the Cell Houses. Any inbound certified mail should be signed for by the prisoners not correctional staff. There should be a designated staff member that is a liaison of mailroom staff that comes by twice a day during the 3-11 shift or once during 7-3 shift and once during the 3-11 to collect the outgoing mail in each cellhouse. These measures if implemented will reduce mail theft, tampering, and sabotage by correctional staff. Also, the mailroom liaison should be the one that delivers the mail to prisoners, which will prevent rogue correctional staff that are harassing and retaliating against prisoners from stealing, withholding and intentionally misdelivering prisoners mail. Let's face it. Prisoners don't pick up the mail from the post office, correctional staff do. Prisoners don't drop off mail at the post office, correctional staff do. Prisoners don't screen, search or sort the mail, Mailroom staff and Correctional staff do. Any problems with inbound or outbound contraband can be easily controlled and has been handled and monitored by staff not prisoners. The only mail that should be scanned is mail from private citizens. Mail from government entities, clerk of courts, ARDC, or businesses should not be scanned and held up. Photos, cards, and books should never be scanned and held up from being delivered to the prisoner. The mail room should keep, and supply, oversized envelopes, and USPS oversized boxes for flat rate mailing upon request. Mail to and from the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commision of The Illinois Supreme Court per departmental rule should be considered legal and or privileged because either 1) a prisoner like myself corresponds with that agency about disciplinary proceedings regarding one's own law license status; 2) Corresponds about the license status and contact information of Illinois lawyers; 3) Corresponds regarding a complaint and or investigation request regarding a lawyer which could be either their own lawyer or a lawyer that is accused of some form of misconduct. Mail to and from Bar Associations including about lawyer referrals should be considered legal and/or privileged. Mail to and from The Judicial Inquiry Board should be considered legal or privileged. I hope that all my concerns are properly addressed and implemented in the department rule amendments. Under no cirumstances should prisoners be allowed to go inside the mailbag-that should only be handeled by designated staff. There should be a IDOC log (that can be requested by prisoners monthly) of all inbound mail returned to

sender. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me for further information: Fredrick Goings, M36022, Dixion Correctional Center, X-House B-Wing Cell 41, 2600 N. Brinton Ave., Dixon, IL 61021 (11/11/2025)

2457. It would be great if pictures could remain on the tablet longer than six months as some are pictures we might not ever get to see again. It should remain possible to at least get hard copies of them automatically or by requesting them. (11/11/2025)

2458. I think that this is a great sloution to certain problems that has plague within all D.O.C.s,now all we need is to figure out how the older population can be help now not all of the ageing populous wants any help but i say as an older inmate we need tofigure out how we as agroup can stop the return of the young while trying to help the older populous who has been serving 20+ years return to sociaty cant spell that word,you get what i'm saying.so lets start by stopping the contraband from getting inside these D.O.Cs. thank you (11/11/2025)

2459. It would be good if we could still keep the real mail. Because if there are numbers on it. Then I would not want someone getting ahold of my numbers. Because you people gave thaim out wen you throu them out in the trash! (11/11/2025)

2460. Why my mail thats been sent here weeks ago have not been sent to me yet? (11/11/2025)

2461. No photos can come in (11/11/2025)

2462. I have not received my mail yet (11/11/2025)

2463. The mail takes much longer getting to us. We are still getting 'sent back receipts' because of mail having stickers or some other miscellanious reason. When the scan process was suppose to cut back on the return mail to sender.

Also, when we request to have our mail printed out. We never hear anything back. Neither do we receive the requested mail. Now its going on a month since Ive requested the mail printout option.

Last but not least. The quality of the pictures on the tablet have been good. (11/11/2025)

2464. So far since IDOC (Hill C.C.) has started this digitization of the incoming mail i have only recieved 1 letter & photo & it took 30 days which is far too long. There is NO reason it should have taken that long i went from receiving a letter from this person about every 10-14 days to receiving a letter once about every 30 days. Which i feel is going to drive us apart this is causing communication breakdown & is messing with my mind & mental state IDOC is suppose to be working on. Helping us incarcerated individuals in custody better our communication & relationships with our families,frieds & loved ones so far it has with these tablets. But now with the digitization of the mail it is putting a wedge & alot of strain on us building up our relationships with the outside world & thats not good. I understand why IDOC has started to digitize the mail in order to help stop the drugs from coming in, but its only going to slow it down cause there is some co's & other staff that are bring the drugs in.

I really hope that they get this digitization of the mail figured out & get the process sped up cause as of right now the time its taken to receive a letter or photos that are sent through the mail

is just too long of a process!
THANK YOU- for your time & service, (11/11/2025)

2465. Missing mail (11/11/2025)

2466. First off if something is being proposed how come they already started not giving paper mail?? But i dont like it because i just sent out mail to my daughter and the letter was return to sender. And they what let me have the letter back i wrote to my lil girl. I even wrote it up almost a mouth ago and still have not heared anything back..plus what if you have someone in your family pass away. An your family send you there obicthuary.. Didnt spell that right.. But thats mail you cant replace. Plus there never going to stop drugs from getting in.. It is more then one way for drugs to get in.. Drugs have been getting into idoc way before this new drug came around.. And it will never stop. Family mail is very important.. Letters from your kid people tht have passed away.. We dont have much as it is... (11/11/2025)

2467. I dont like getting my mail or my pictures on the tablet (11/11/2025)

2468. I feel like yall are making it hard for our famlies to reach out & get in contact with us.Look at eerything yall are doing.Some people who aint computer smart,dont know how to keep up.Now yall cutting out our mail.Like,why though?It aint gone stop nothing.Yall just making our bid harder & stresing us out.Yall creating tension amongst us,for no reason. (11/11/2025)

2469. I feel these changes to the mail process will rob residents of certain liberty regarding looking at or sharing photos because time on the tablets are limited. (11/11/2025)

2470. I think its bullshit. Im no longer able to colllect photos of my loved ones.. An on top of that, my pictures get deleted after 6 months.. What the fuck? People are doing decades and they get their pics for 6 months.. You guys migjt have a retardation of the brain... With that, i think we should get our mail... (11/11/2025)

2471. I understand why the mail has changed. I have seen personally things that came through the mail laced with chemicals that people use in one way or another. There are a couple things that I feel are not right. I do not understand why photos delete after six months. In some cases these could be the only copys and will be forever lost. My understanding is that the photos are scanned into the mail or tablet system and then destroyed. I feel they should be returned to the sender with information to either make copys or send through a third party service. For instance, " grandma sends you pictures of her and grandpa when they were younger" and she doesnt understand that you wont physically have the pictures or even be able give them back or even keep them for that matter. In this situation family memories that can not be replaced have just been destroyed. I have not had any actual letters yet but some photos were sent to me. Yes I did recieve them all on my tablet. I do not like having to log into my tablet just to see my children when I normally would see them in a picture I have setting where I can see it in my cell. I hope the photo part of this system gets revised so that familys do not lose their unreplacable memories. (11/11/2025)

2472. I'm completly fed up with the actions of a few ruining it for the many. Some of us look forward to card and letters from our children and now because other criminals have no desire to change their habit in jere as well as when they get out more simple connections we have to our families be taken away because of a selfish few with no desire to be productive members of society.
(11/11/2025)

2473. In order to have mail on the tablet inmates must have access to their tablet in restrictive housing and the tablet must let u log into it at all times to access mail as well as every cell needs wifi to access mail. Not having 24/7 access to mail is a form of mail restriction that idoc is trying to impose and it will be met with lawsuite from me and my lawyer. The drug problem comes from officers in idoc bringing sickness and drugs into the prison and officers need to be strip searched just how inmates are strip searched upon leaving visits (11/11/2025)

2474. Look that mail progress is wrong,it aint right.our mail be already late as it is & now its even taking longer to receive our mail.like my wife puts a tracking on all my mail & when it shows that its here,i still dnt get it 2 to 3 wks after that.i feel if indivituals are not doing anything to get they mail scanned,they shouldnt be apart of it.thank u (11/11/2025)

2475. Not happy about not being able to recieve word searches to make my time go by easier (11/11/2025)

2476. Some of the issues of this are: With correspondence educational courses being scanned in, there is more likely a chance of missing critical deadlines, and also missing pieces of the words since some of the mail that has been scanned has cut off pieces. Pictures come very badly scanned. Also, mail is way more behind than it typically has been even during holiday seasons. (11/11/2025)

2477. The thing I dislike most about the proposed changes to the IDOC incoming mail procedures is the nonsensical practice of restricting all mail that comes from family and friends. Essentially I feel like my loved ones are being punished, seemingly accused of some type of wrongdoing. Common sense should prevail here.....if a known approved caller/visitor, or family member sends me mail then that mail should be approved. Consider the consequences if a verifiable contact commits any sort of infraction in regards to the mail they send....it is completely trackable. My 60+ year old disabled Aunt living on a fixed income only goes to the post office, has a simple checking account with 1 debit card, and often still makes payments either in person or by US mail. This sort of verifiable person in a prisoners life should not be forced to pay exceedingly high prices or be forced to put their personal information online just to correspond with their incarcerated loved one. IDOC has no right to treat known, verifiably upstanding citizens as if they are criminals. If their address checks out, I should not have to read their scanned mail on a screen. (11/11/2025)

2478. To whom it may concern my name s REDACTED,I am re writting this survey because i had ordered some holiday cards the first weekof sept and they arrived here in this facility spet 21st to be exact the memo about our mail wasnt suppose to take place till sept 30thbut as of to date which is November 10th.I still have yet received my card order nobody can tell me anything

all i am getting is grieve the mail room,but what would be my point of grieving the mail room when they are only doing what their bosses are telling them to do.Also,our mail wasnt suppose to start going electronically on our tablets till sept30 but i am receiveing mail on my tablet from sept14-26 and i am sure i have more up there.I undestand mail from people needs to be scan but what im not understanding is why is there an issue ordering cards to send to our loved ones when it is some of our only way to communicate and express ourselves. (11/11/2025)

2479. I think how mail handling is being done is uncaused for (""LITERALLY"") and i say this because i still havent gotten pictures that were sent in weeks ago not even on the tablet how they supposed to been handled now and its frustrating and i know multiple other people that has the same issue with the mailing and other things as well its unfair specially to the people who have 5yrs plus to serve. (11/11/2025)

2480. It is a direct violation of our rights our mail is being thrown away (11/11/2025)

2481. Its my opinion that the proposed changes has done nothing but further delay and prohibit access to loved ones of incarcerated individuals (11/11/2025)

2482. I think its going be a problem cause some people need to commuticate with church base group and u can't do that off the tablet (11/11/2025)

2483. My comments is all other state have try the some thing with the mail and it have not work and just like everthing us in IL it don,t work just like how bad the prison or when it come to food and been clean and how everthing fell apart at menard anf the wosre of it at menard is medical this is what IL should spend money on to fix then the mail (11/11/2025)

2484. Do not like it. Just having the hardcopy of that letter or card or pictures is sentimental (11/11/2025)

2485. Being incacerated for 8 years, mail is important and i dont get alot but some times my son who has downsyndrome and in a goup home sends me little colored pictures and its my only physical thing i get. Its really important to me i already feel so disconcted from my family and kids that i long for thoes small things just like pictures it phyically have my pictures means the world to me. Some people dont do much time so it may not really matter to them bus us that have 5, 10, 20 years thats our everything. We are in a minimum securty prison for a reason but get treated like max anyways (11/11/2025)

2486. we need to feel connected to family and having mail brought to us is very good everybody dont tamper with mail to get drugs in so please stop blaming everyone.. (11/11/2025)

2487. I personally feel that mail is senimental. Cards and letters from family is valuable. Certain cards and photos can never be replaced. A potrait or regular 4Ã—8 picture is something of value that cant be replaced, and a printed copy of that card or picture will never look the same. I just honestly feel that our mail shouldnt have to suffer or be altered due to security lacking a Thorough check with all mail before its sent to the inmate in custody. (11/11/2025)

2488. Electronic mail is highly inconvenient for everyone.one more step in the oppresive life we live now i cant have christmas cards or birthdays...things that hold strong sentimental value.highly disapointed. (11/11/2025)

2489. I believe that photocopying our letters is okay but our cards that our family sends us is disheartening. Its a way to connect and recieve love from our families and having to get a paper copy of a card is not the same. (11/11/2025)

2490. I believe that taking our mail away prevent me for getting family picture, letter, and obituaries. I know the reason for the change but not everybody was involved with the wrong doing. I believe those thats involved with the wrong doing should be punish not everybody. (11/11/2025)

2491. I don't think our mail should be scanned or put the tablet. We are already so far away from our families. Photos, cards, and just letters are priceless to the soul. My mental health would be damage without it. I always go reread my letters, and look at my photos. They already showing me there is no care scanned material. You can barely see the pictures and they on cheap paper instead of photo paper. Putting my cards doesn't feel like the love my family is trying to give me. We also are not given a new tablet if something happens to ours. Even though they are available. So access to these dear things are not certain when every prison does things different. There literally people here that need tablets and can't get one even though there is 500 here. This can be used as punishment too. Please keep the mail... (11/11/2025)

2492. Letters, birthday cards, drawings from our kids you name it but anything that we can personally possess from the outside that was sent from love one's is the closest thing we have to having them beside us, smelling that last piece of candy my kid was eating as he wrote me a letter or seeing the L on the word Love smeared from the tears of my wife or mom, taking letters, cards, etc. away from us is like taking our only mental escape from these cells despict the tablets, its understandable that the prisons can scan the mail but there is a BIG DIFFERENCE, your taking the closest thing we have to them some of our families live so far its years at a time b4 we see them again so that 1 sentimental vaule is all we got i have 3 Life sentences (11/11/2025)

2493. Mail from out sid is all we have as contact with our peaple ... Some peaple don't have the money to buy new books ,our chanse is just used books (11/11/2025)

2494. Respectfully, this rule change is inappropiate and unconstitutional. This rule change will take away the sentimental vaule that mail provides to incarcerated indiviuals; especially when there is not much contact between incarcerated indiviuals and their love ones. Additonally, this rule change will allow for indiviuals to lose their mail after 6 months. As opposed to when one receive mail the original way; where one is able to retain his/her mail for however they choose to. This rule in unconstitional and inhuman (11/11/2025)

2495. Taking physical mail away from incarcerated people is dehumanizing. To actualy hold a letter from a loved one brings great joy and establishes a physical connection that a tablet or a copy of a letter does not and cannot bring. We are already disconnected from society which has been proven to cause mental distress. Science has also proven that too much time spent on ""

screens"" is also detrimental to mental health. Restricticting physical mail is another bruise to an already broken soul. Please do not continue this dehumanizing practice. (11/11/2025)

2496. This is not right how they are putting our mail on this tablet wat if someone Died in your family in they try in give u a copy of yo people pitcures or stuff that is not replaceble (11/11/2025)

2497. This policy violates our constitutional rights.reguarding mail.service.it says they will.destroy our mail.when.IDOC has been sued for this very reason.in the past officers destroying mail.with sentimental.value now the state is openly.doing such mail.on.a.tablet that can not be taken.home means i cannot take pictures.of my loved ones obitcharys of deceased.loved ones.home.or even a.letter from.a loved one who.has passed away this means.the state is violating my freedom of mail rights an illegal search an.seisure policies I am.going to sue JB priztker (11/11/2025)

2498. To stop mail service and place scanned copies on our tablets is hard for us doing life and wanting to have those special moments written by our loved ones to hold on to some whom are elderly and will pass.To only allow the scanned copies of our letters and pictures to last for 6 fucking months is bullshit.So an obituary of my loved one I am only allowed to look at as a scanned copy for 6 fucking months then it is gone forever to me??? Come on now how is that not cruel and heartless??? There must be another way to figure this out.Stop only looking at it for one point of view think about US that have the rest of our lives in here for to strip away our hope and connection to our loved ones will leave many without or compassion left. (11/11/2025)

2499. FL state has taken incarcerated peoples' mail for years, yet over doses have doubled since then. I myself have family members who are only getting older and ive lost 7 people in 5yrs. I cherish my GMa's hand written letters. I also just had to give up my Magic cards due to transfer. I dont come from money and the cards i got came cheaply and not from a big company. How will i get back my same cards that i love from my family now? A sis gender male upstairs just had his charger blow up and it damaged his tablet. His GMa is in her 80s, her health is failingand he just learned of her 2nd cancer from a tablet and she can only really write him and now he cant have that physical mail anymore, which could be his last letter from her. Further more, mulitple sources have proven that whatever paper-drugs are produced to be handled by hands, that the chemicals have to hit the blood stream to induce effects. Conclusion that any gaurd who claims overdosing and then going to a hospital is factually lying about their experience and their toxicology report will and does prove such lying. I myself dont touch that crap but in equal protection of the law, this has been groomed into taking away our mail and books. Much like i was groomed and coerced into taking a plea deal that gave me 46yrs for a crime i didnt commit. (11/11/2025)

2500. Its not a good thing because what if we're up late night thinking and missing our loved ones and want to look at a picture or read a letter we cant even log in to our tablets after 12am it messes with mental health yall just took away a major privilege (11/11/2025)

2501. The new mail procedure does not seem to be working because no mail is coming through. Recently an officer has told us not to ask about our mail as if the mail is not addressed to us.

Also an officer has been seen putting mail in drawers and the mail that was placed in the drawer was eventually passed out by another officer days later as if tampering with the mail is not a federal offense. (11/11/2025)

2502. The mail process as it is with regards to the scanning and all is it is so far backed up and so unreliable that it is unrealistic for longevity (11/11/2025)

2503. My family and friends have for many years sent me used books to read. I am an avid reader. The cost of new books is prohibative, and creates a hardship. I have also used a number of books to prisoner programs, which are no longer allowed. The new rule does affect small businesses, and charities that sell used books. Books can, and have been in the past, easily checked for weapons.
The library here at Danville C.C. is often closed for weeks at a time, and limits books to be checked out to two. Thus, reading material is very limited.
The new mail system is slow. Often taking three weeks or more to post letters. Obtaining copies is extremely slow.
Unfortunately, the implementation has not brought about a significant reduction in the use of K-2. I have never heard of any weapon being smuggled in via books, in the twenty plus years I have been incarcerated. Nor has the individual responsible for property. If so, the new policy would have been implemented years ago. As additional proof, books have been processed in days, even recently. The book claim has no history, and thus no validity. As for the drug situation, unfortunately there are no measures taken thus far which the sellers have not been able to overcome. The best solution seems to be one which IDOC has been unwilling to implement. As someone who paid taxes for decades, I am alarmed at the waste of tax dollars wasted on this program. (11/11/2025)

2504. I am concerned about the scanning and copying because the quality can make it much harder to read. I also think it will take longer to recieve mail. Most of the drugs in prison are brought in by officers, not through the mail.
If we really want to cut down on paper mail allow a more robust email service. If we could copy/paste and edit/print/reply so that we could work on motions and research with our outside advocates, the paper mail process would slow down dramaticly.
For example, if one is out in the world, one MUST file thier motions electronicly. This is fast accurate and efficient (and cheaper).
In here, we have to create the motion on our own, get a pass to get copies made and send by mail, then wait for the clerk to recive it, file it and send it back.
From begining to end this can take several weeks. Electronicly it is instant and provable.
Thank you for your interest in our opinions!
M.M.
(11/11/2025)

2505. I am not in favor of digital mail on the tablet as there are many increased opportunities for error in receiving mail timely, efficently as well as accurately. Individuals are already waiting nearly a month or more to receive mail the traditional way as is, and the new method only prolongs the process further enhancing frustration and consortion. Confidence in the new process does not bode well given that the memo updating us in regards to the new mail process includes

instructions on filing grievances for issues and errors. There are many more points that can be made at the faults, but in short; The new process of providing mail via the tablets only creates more issues than the "resolution to a drug problem" it preports to resolve. (11/11/2025)

2506. I have had pictures sent to this faculity. It plainly stated in the memo they would print those pictures off for me. I am still waiting after sending kites to mailroom (who will not take anything except 0286 form that we do not have). I have also wrote my counselor about getting my pictures. Furthermore, just a letter now takes 10 days to get to me when it was only taking 3-4 days to get to me. The prisons are not famous for having the extra staff and its a big waste of everyones time and energy focusing on the mail. (11/11/2025)

2507. I REALLY THINK THIS SHOULD BE FOR THOSE THAT HAVE DONE WRONG AND NOT FOR THOSE THAT ARE TRYING TO DO THE RIGHT THING'S IN PRISON . NOW OUR FAMILY'S CAN'T DROP OFF BOOK'S & MAGAZINE'S ON VISIT'S , THEY CAN'T SEND ANY , THIS JUST TAKE'S AWAY SO MUCH FROM US IN HERE , PLEASE RETHINK WHAT YOU ARE DOING HERE .
THANK YOU
(11/11/2025)

2508. I think its wrong and slow..and the process is way to longer then normal (11/11/2025)

2509. I think they should give us back our paper copy mail or give us the option to print our mail out so we can have a copy because the letters, pictures and cards that our family send to us have sentimental value. (11/11/2025)

2510. I wish it can got back how it use to be cause people take time of they day to send long letter (11/11/2025)

2511. Its a good and easy way to read my personal letters. But I have concern about how fast I am getting my mail. (11/11/2025)

2512. There are times when we need important documents from our family that must stay as is and can not be copied, the originals are needed. Things such as health care papers, legal documents and degrees, we should be allowed to get these important papers where it would affect our lives in a meaningful way. (11/11/2025)

2513. There should be a better review system for publications, specifically with coming books/mangas, the process now allows the c.o or mail room to simple denie a book because they don't like it, when it doesn't violate any of the other rules. Thank you. (11/11/2025)

2514. I dont agree with the changes in mail priveleges. I agree with cutting down drug use and putting a stop to contraband coming in...BUT...not all of us should be punished for other dummys mistakes. Its not just and its not fair to cut out our pictures, cards, letters, etc., etc. from loved ones. SOME of us have changed, SOME of us deserve to receive mail and not be punished for a few peoples wrong doings. I 110% do not agree and think its wrong. But...even if this is read by someone, I very seriously doubt that my opinion will matter or be considered in any way

at all. If I am wrong, I apologize. But, we all know thats not the case. Thanks ; âˆš{] (11/11/2025)

2515. It's alright but how long do it take when you get your pictures and how do you know that you got them (11/11/2025)

2516. My choice of where i decide to oder my books,magazines n my family chooses to mail pictures should b mine n their choice.If they r coming from a publisher as well as if the pictures rnt coming from the sender straight to the facility.Then we should recieve them.My pictures r said to go on a Tablet to which r said to b deleted n a time frame.That is not fair because pictures r for memory purposes n that being deleted r a personal n mental punishment. (11/11/2025)

2517. Dont like it (11/11/2025)

2518. I FEEL THE MAIL SHOULD BE LEFT ALONE. (11/11/2025)

2519. I feel it was a good decision (11/11/2025)

2520. I feel like it is making it safer for inmates and staff. (11/11/2025)

2521. i feel that it is the best and proper way to handle mail in prison. (11/11/2025)

2522. Good (11/11/2025)

2523. Not a fan of the propose mail change (11/11/2025)

2524. Its terrible and unreliable (11/11/2025)

2525. It sucks but doesnt (11/11/2025)

2526. I have none (11/11/2025)

2527. I dont like it noboty dose (11/11/2025)

2528. I dont oppose the new system on mail (11/11/2025)

2529. I think its a terrible decision (11/11/2025)

2530. I dont like it at all it is taking way to long to get mail (11/11/2025)

2531. What you all are say is Good for us so no one will die thank you Respectfully (11/11/2025)

2532. Weeks, or a month delays . Weak system. I understand the why and what they are trying to do, but not this way. Legal Mail is opened and lack of respect for Justice. Just sad. (11/11/2025)

2533. Weeks, or a month delays . Weak system. I understand the why and what they are trying to do, but not this way. Legal Mail is opened and lack of respect for Justice. Just sad. (11/11/2025)

2534. Leave it how it was it was fine before you messed with it. (11/11/2025)

2535. Don't like it and it seems unfair. My ? is, is it legal to do this? (11/11/2025)

2536. If it helps eliminate the drugs and speeds up the current mail process, I believe it benefits all. (11/11/2025)

2537. As for my comments, l am in total disageement with IDOC proposed changes with the Unitsd States Postage and Mail Service. Everyone one living in United States have a ciivil right to receive their postal mail including individuals in custody like myself and thousands of others. We shoould continue to be afforded our right to our personal mail and properties in their phyiscal form. All of which, holds significance to the individual to some great extent. IDOC has always had security measures in place since the early 1900's to maintain the safety and security of their staff and inmates. And, should still impliment such measures without violating the rights of other inmates, or without treating us inhumane, whom has not and do not commit any illegal or dangerous acts with their own mail, like myself and thousands of other staff and inmates. Receiving mail, through our U.S. postal services that has been reviewed by security, and that which contains no contraband, nor is of no danger, will still allow inmates to feel loved and care from family members, our religious organizations, our support groups throughout world. IDOC change proposal also eliminates inmates to physically participate in various survey's and questionaair's (which requires to be filled and written out). Similar to this survey? However, which will be deemed scanned and likely contraband if not coming from a vendor like Edovo. Please continue to afford myself and others our fundamental civil and human rights like other individuals whom receive mail through the United States Postal Services. Thank you for considering. (11/11/2025)

2538. I feel like everything with the mail should stay the same because it's way better to get pictures in person than it would be on the tablet.! (11/11/2025)

2539. I want to first say that i understand the reason why IDOC implemented his policy. Its simply because they are to lazy to do their jobs and keep thier people safe. To punish all individuals in custody for the misdeeds of a few constitutes cruel and unusual punishment. This really isnt them trying to stop illegal drugs from gettimg into the facilities because over a month without getting mail and it still hasnt slowed anything down! This is simply IDOC allowing the union to continue to inflict torture on the people that they rule over until somethimg bad happens and then theyll use the fact that we are protesting or rebelling against their treatment to prove to the outside world that we are some how Monsters. Next they will say that we dont deserve to even communicate with our family. If they think that there is a drug problem, then why is it they dont offer these guys some help. Hy dont they make school more accessible and programs like CAVE(EJP) available for them to try to unload some of the trauma they struggle with so that they can stop usingdrugs as coping mechanisms. If you ask me IDOC PROMOTES drug use

more than they try to stop it. They have an agenda for jobs, not rehabilitation. They focus on security to the detrement of a person returning to the community as a productive citizen. In fact they rather you be a monster because it serves two purposes for them: he destruction of under served communities keeps them and their families with a carrer in corrections. I can go onand on but what good is this really doing. Put me in a room with someone who wants to really listen and effect real change and i will make them a believer.
(11/11/2025)

2540. most of the drugs don't come through the mail on paper, the inmates handling chemicals are the ones who sell that papers with chemicals to drug addicts to smoke. (11/11/2025)

2541. Officer's employed by the Illinois department of correction need to be trained in due diligence in inspecting in coming mail,rather than practice avoidance! (11/11/2025)

2542. Stupid. (11/11/2025)

2543. The mail changes are just another way to funnel taxpayers money to another priate business.We want our letters to be delivered phisically to us.99.9% of us dont move any contaband.This is just a money grab operation and another way to take our and our loveones privacy away.Once again more spying not on us,but on free american citizens,and breaking the Constitution.Resounding NO to electronic only mail.Please dont allowe it! (11/11/2025)

2544. Yes this type of mail system is going to work thete would be less drygs or other items not exeptibale in prison and also looking at mail in ypur tablet would be great for those people who do not know how to use the tablet and they can read there mail without any problems focus and help them to read personaly and directly with no problem this is a great process keep up the good work edovo family. (11/11/2025)

2545. Why is only mail room people fall out not the police when the police touch drug that can kill they but there not falling out but soon as staff member touch they end up in the hospital in the (I c u) now dont that sound like a lie the people at the post office are not falling out nobody but staff at the jail you an i no who bring the drugs in and the phone we dont need mail on the tablet because c/o take for ever just to go threw the mail now you want them to put it on the tablet which would take 3 weeks people are going miss dead line because of staff lying if stafff really want a safe jail make them wear bodycamera for there safed and for me to feel safe do you see how all the bs in these county jail slow down when they had to wear bodycamera drugs slow down beating of individual in custody slow down so help us individual in custody feel safe when you no for a fact that these same c/o who are lying are the same ones beat the hell out of individual in custody so they say there falling out from the drugs an im fall out an lost friends from the ass kicking like these c/o told me we here in Illinois we never wear bodycamera because are union is to strong and there right that want the mail on the tablet and i want all staff who work in (IDOC) to wear bodycamera now let see if we get what we as inmate or individual in custody get them to do that my name is Duwon Patterson K70918 at hill c c and let us win some time bodycamera for all staff and for there safed and my safed so my mother dont have to worry about me at nigth that a staff member might beat me to deaf like they did some of my friends in menard illinois cc you should be sick of paying law suit from your office beating

individual in custody and have keep paying out that money can go on school or more c/o you do the math bodycamera is the way to go look at all the jail who do have bodycamera crime is down hopefully we have bodycamera to watch these c/o an individual in custody to make all jail in the state of illinois safe thank you my name is REDACTED Hill c c witer me back thank you (11/11/2025)

2546. Why are these changes necessary i understand your aide of it now comes my point of view on the matter is these changes going to help or make mail more harder to recieve than before changes are good not all changes help the problems the department is facing. (11/11/2025)

2547. Okkk (11/11/2025)

2548. I dont think my answer is worthy for an approvale when their are so many people have the same thinking. (11/11/2025)

2549. Cannot Get Certificates From Different Bible Studies So How Can We Use The Cetificates From Bible Studies Through The Mail If We Cannot Get Them (11/12/2025)

2550. Please fix our tablets so that we can print our mail from it like we did on our old tablets. Thanks (11/12/2025)

2551. Why is it nessary for the mail to be done like scaned it will be longer for us to get mail which it is bad enough as it is now and other people will be able to see our mail that we do not know they have to scan it in so you know they will read it as they do now . just another way for i d o c to try and control whonand when we get to talk to some one it should be aganst the law . (11/12/2025)

2552. I just think that this should only be applied to the individuals who have been found guilty or red flagged for trying to have drugs sent into the facility.Having everyone suffer from other actions is not the way.I have things coming in from family that have sentimental value that I am not able to physically get,a copy of it isnt the same as the original.So, if we could make that change it would make a major difference. (11/12/2025)

2553. I appreciate the movement and activities at Taylorville. I, personally, do not cause trouble and am hoping to utilize my time learning and hopefully leave. I can only hope to be a help and inspiration to others. I welcome this mail policy but suggest, since people wait on their photo prints at the behest of IDOC, that the wait time be decreased and more staff be available to help with mail and prints. It took nearly three weeks to receive only photos and then a day after the request, it has been almost three weeks and I still have not received them. If I can offer suggestions. I hope more documents and items are utilized on the tablets. If you could update the digital staff messaging (for digital request slips) and possibly add a "note taking", word processor, or agenda app - this would allow reduction in paper but also allow individuals to take notes and keep their daily items, it would be a huge help to those in courses and an everyday app. I would also like to suggest more premium content which would increase revenue for Taylorville an IDOC. The addition of more premium movies, tv shows, and perhaps a subscription plan for

music might bring more money in. Also, the addition of PlutoTv, YouTube, Netflix, Hulu (of course, limited an restricted based on content) might keep people more occupied and give options and help to stay out of trouble. The addition of a basic, restricted internet might allow people to keep up to date but it might also help many in courses, as well. I am a huge digital media and content person, so the update of tablets to additionally add features, documents, and more is welcomed and appreciated. Finally, if I can recommend, somehow, the addition of curtains or partitions in the shower facilities. Some people dont mind showering with others, but it seems the concensus is that most wait and shower individually. Some dont even ask to shower with others. This would alleviate this fear for many. Especially, considering women still patrol the units and the fact this facility is over 90% people here for sex related offenses, and its all male individuals. It would ease the mind of many to have just one wall of curtains or simple partitions so you can shower privately. I Thank you for this time to welcome my suggestions and hope they will be considered. I am grateful and hope more surveys and opportunities to offer suggestions are afforded to us. Thank You. (11/12/2025)

2554. I appreciate the movement and activities at Taylorville. I, personally, do not cause trouble and am hoping to utilize my time learning and hopefully leave with positivity and stronger than when I entered. I can only hope to be a help and inspiration to others. I welcome this mail policy but suggest, since people wait on their photo prints at the behest of IDOC, that the wait time be decreased and more staff be available to help with mail and prints. It took nearly three weeks to receive only photos and then a day after the request, it has been almost three weeks and I still have not received them. If I can offer suggestions. I hope more documents and items are utilized on the tablets. If you could update the digital staff messaging (for digital request slips) and possibly add a "note taking", word processor, or agenda app - this would allow reduction in paper but also allow individuals to take notes and keep their daily items, it would be a huge help to those in courses and an everyday app. I would also like to suggest more premium content which would increase revenue for Taylorville an IDOC. The addition of more premium movies, tv shows, and perhaps a subscription plan for music might bring more money in. Also, the addition of PlutoTv, YouTube, Netflix, Hulu (of course, limited an restricted based on content) might keep people more occupied and give options and help to stay out of trouble. The addition of a basic, restricted internet might allow people to keep up to date but it might also help many in courses, as well. I am a huge digital media and content person, so the update of tablets to additionally add features, documents, and more is welcomed and appreciated. Finally, if I can recommend, somehow, the addition of curtains or partitions in the shower facilities. Some people dont mind showering with others, but it seems the concensus is that most wait and shower individually. Some dont even ask to shower with others. This would alleviate this fear for many. Especially, considering women still patrol the units and the fact this facility is over 90% people here for sex related offenses, and its all male individuals. It would ease the mind of many to have just one wall of curtains or simple partitions so you can shower privately. I Thank you for this time to welcome my suggestions and hope they will be considered. I am grateful and hope more surveys and opportunities to offer suggestions are afforded to us. Thank You. (11/12/2025)

2555. Some things should be allowed if they come straight from the manufacture. (11/12/2025)

2556. Mail should be checked.with some type of light to see if chemicals are on there most of us have older family members how are use to send cards and picture and book threw the regular

mail all that sending from the publisher make it diffcult for the older people.who is not use to going on line and sending things (11/12/2025)

2557. I think its a great idea. But pics i believe we should get and cards. (11/12/2025)

2558. The measures you are taking with regard to the incoming mail are necessary and appreciated. Unfortunately dated material, such as "Channel Guide" are arriving around the 14th of the month, which is troublesome. If DOC could add the channel listings from the Direct TV system onto the in house cable, this could solve the problem. Thank You. (11/12/2025)

2559. This plan yall have to photo copy our mail is not legal, its a federal violation to tamper with mail, if yall gonna implement this new change yall have to send our original mail back to our loved ones after its photo copied because theres no way of knowing what is really being done with our original mail that yall are claiming your going to destroy which i dont trust because IDOC is known for lying about what is being done in these prisons, yall are punishing everyone for the actions of a few individuals which is a violation of my 8th amendment under cruel and unusual punishment, its also a federal violation for tampering with mail which is being done constantly in these prisons, ive been incarcerated since 2017 and ive had my mail tampered with multiple times and went through grievance process only to be denied and no results as to where my letters or photos disappeared to, the correctional staff are not properly trained in handling of mail or of anything for that matter besides always trying to implement brute force against us individuals in custody, during our time incarcerated we are supposed to be going through a rehabilitation process which isnt being done in IDOC because they want individuals to keep commiting offenses so we can stay in these corrupt prison systems, i dont feel what is trying to be done with mail is a good idea due to the fact that we dont really know where our original mail is going after the photo copy, if yall want to do that only do it to individuals who have been caught trying to smuggle drugs or items of that nature not the whole prison population, IDOC is getting away with so much unlawful acts its unbelievable, alot of these prisons are condemed and need to be closed down, theres no proper ventilation, were constantly being punished for the actions of a few individuals, commissary is only once a month in this facility (menard) and we can only go for $100, all other max facilities shop twice a month but this one, if were only able to shop once a month there should be NO LIMIT on the amount of money we can spend at commissary, $100 in food will not last anyone a whole month unless you force yourself to starve because the meals being provided by the facilities are not edible whatsoever and is not based on a 2,500 calorie diet plus the portions arent enough to feed a grown adult let alone a child, in this facility alone they are consistantly giving us left overs from the day before just rewarming the food and we get sick because of it i just got to menard in september 2025 and ive had the stomach flu 3 times already giving me horrible stomach pains and diarreha, this facility is one of the worst most unsanitary places ive been in my whole life, theres no recreation were stuck in our cells 24/7 we barely get yard theres absolutly no gym no chow lines nothing just stuck in a cell all day long with no window that im able to control from my cell which is against the law and very minimal ventalation in the cells which consists of a steel plate with a couple holes drilled in them as our vents theres no real ventalation, all prisons should have heat for the fall and winter seasons and a/c for spring and summer seasons which none of them do, also springfield needs to stop announcing when they will be touring facilities and just randomly show up to prisions that way the facility has no time to cover the corrupt and unconstitutional things

being done in these facilities, theres black mold in each of these prisons and nothing is being done about it, when springfield announces they will come to a facility the staff of that facility make it their duty to cover up all the corrupt things in these prisons by painting over the black mold right before they arrive, ive developed respritory problems due to these issues and medical staff refuse to give me medical attention, when i came to prison i was in perfect health now im constantly having shortness of breath and unbearable back pain due to these thin mattresses that have been in these cells for decades we need to be given all new mattresses to each individual and throw away all these old ones (11/12/2025)

2560. I think that there should be a way to check our mail for drugs or whatever your worried about coming in. Its not fair to the ones who arent doing anything wrong to not be allowed to physically get our mail. We cant get our pictures from our family nor do they print them off in a timely fashion. This isnt ideal at all nor is it right. So they should get a scanner to run the mail thru and something to check for drugs. But we should be able to get our mail (11/12/2025)

2561. We should not have to have a limit in the mail coming just cause people are lacing drugs on it dont affect the rest of us whos families send mail or getting books through publishers. Have a procedure where you can scan mail for any substances that way we. Dont have to deal with all this drug usage in the prisons ....also allowing nude magazines or penatration magazines should be allowed since we. Are men and were paying with our own money... (11/12/2025)

2562. Dont stop photos , idc about about nothing else :) (11/12/2025)

2563. Takes to long and we should get are cards that are family have sent (11/12/2025)

2564. I just want my mail on time & still can't get it!!!! Why is that? (11/12/2025)

2565. I dont like it. The letters are not scanned correctly nor are the pictures (11/12/2025)

2566. I am very unsatisfied with the scanning service. I have not been able to get any of my mail printed off even though i have put multiple requests in. I belive some of my mail has even been scaned to other peoples accounts or have been lost or stolen. I have had multipule people send letters and pictures but have received only 1 peice of scanned mail to my tablet. This system needs to be fixed or scrapped all together.
I am in the Big muddy river correctional center in ina illinois. (11/12/2025)

2567. I am not too happy with the mail changes. I have pictures on the tablet now that im not able to pull off the tablet to take home with me when i leave. How am i supposed to get those pictures back if im not able to take the tablet home? (11/12/2025)

2568. Take to long to recieve mail (11/12/2025)

2569. The electronic mail system takes 30 to 40 days to get mail. And the will not print our mail off for us. We cant have books sent from home. The new mail system is inconvinent. The mail room has lost two letters ive had sent now. (11/12/2025)

2570. Here at Graham correctinal center mail is ridiculousness slow regardless of what kind of mail. Even prioity mail is behind here like court paper & legal mail. Prilvilege mail forget about it. We sometime dont see are mail and if you do see it will be like 6-months to a year because of staff put everthing on the back burner for later. Instead of doing it when it arrive here. like are pictures they are way behind as its already ,ect are greeting cards from are family and lovely ones. (11/12/2025)

2571. The pictures my family sent me were scanned & placed on my tablet for me to view, they are of such a low quality i can hardley see any details. Things were already terrible having to view family & friends through photos, but being able to hold the pictures & actually see the picture clearly made things a little better. This is ridiculous. (11/12/2025)

2572. Dont see why grown men cant get photos of naked women but are expected to shower next to other naked men. (11/12/2025)

2573. Shit weak asl, we should be able to get nudes like regular human beings (11/12/2025)

2574. They open alot of legal mail that is obviously marked court house,states attorney, public defenders, and all mail is atleast a month behind so if its something that is time sensitive we do not get it on time (11/12/2025)

2575. These changes are disrespectful to our VERY BASIC human rights. The mail room is now opening my legal mail and scanning it all without me being present. Incoming mail from the Lee county courthouse's circut clerk's office is undeniably LEGAL MAIL. To imply that the same people that convict me and send me here to DOC would send me letters coated in drugs is complete and total nonsence. Also to imply my 80-something year old grandmother would drop off art books soaked in drugs an insult as well as an injustice to her sainthood. When my legal mail is opened without me present my rights are VIOLATED. The law allows me to recieve postal mail... NOT EMAILS. NOT SCANNED DOCUMENTS.
Furthermore, when my publications and orderforms from the Hit Pointe Catalog are allowed by the standards established yet scanned anyway and by such a bad printer i cant even read it my rights are VIOLATED.
Lastly there is an administrative directive allowing porn and pornographic materials to come in so the warden of jacksonville refusing to allow them in is a confusing misdeed and slap in the face. I am a grown ass man in prison... This targeted issue isnt right and needs to stop.
Please go back to how it was. If county jails can afford body scanners to prevent incoming drugs yall can find the money to get the equipment that exists to detect them on paper. (11/12/2025)

2576. IN DEFENSE AGAINST DIGITAL SCANNED MAIL
[November 12th, 2025]
ID. At 413-414 94s. Ct at 1811 (Thornburgh Vs. Abbot):
"Thus a restriction on Inmate Correspondence that furthers an important or substantial interest of penal administration will nevertheless be INVALID if its sweep is unnecessarily Broad" ;
"Prison Inmates enjoy a right to send and receive Mail" (Thornburgh Vs. Abbot);
730 ILCS 5\3-8-7 (B)(1) (West 1996): "Corporal punishment, and DISCIPLINARY RESTRICTIONS on diet, medical or sanitary facilities, clothing, bedding, MAIL, or access to

legal materials ARE PROHIBITED."
US. CONSTITUTION, AMEDMENT I:
"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment or religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH OR OF THE PRESS...."
US. CONSTITUTION, AMEDMENT XIV, SECTION 1:
"...No State Shall make or Enforce any law which shall ABRIDGE the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or PROPERTY, without DUE PROCESS OF LAW; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law"
That ALL inmates have a right to receive their Actual mail instead of being forced to accept a Digital or Photo Copy: this is a "Liberty Interest", that is an interest that is protected by the Due Process Clause of the 14th Amendment which cannot be Arbitrarily denied without Due Process. (Gilmer Vs. Maryland).
THUS:
By taking our Physical Mail away and forcing us to accept only Digital or a Photo Copy is Abridging our Rights without Due Process (Abridging: to Reduce, Condense, Curtail, or Cut Short our Rights to our Physical Mail by providing us with a fake copy of the actual thing), Violates our First Amendment, Is being done under a Security Reason that is unnecessarily Broad by punishing everyone for what others are doing, is Punishing everyone for IDOC's security shortcomings and what others are doing illegally with their mail privileges is Discipline of all inmates for others actions, Is a Federal offense by denying us our mail, tampering with it, and destroying it with out a separate security reason individually, and this Digital\Photo Copy removes the value that the Actual physical mail has when it comes from our loved ones: turning our mail into a cold, fake, and insensitive piece of paper or digital scan, this is punishing all inmates for others actions that increases the " Oppression" feeling of Isolation from the outside from taking away our only real means of connection to our loved ones and making it an insensitive digital or piece of paper copy creating more Mental Health issues that wont help us cope with incarceration nor allow IDOC to succeed in its Mission Statement Objectives. Irrepable Harm to Inmates rights to receive mail will incur should this go forward, and open the door to other rights being Abridged or tested. IDOC, must and should Restore our Physical Mail rights, and spend their time, money, and training towards Targeting Individuals whom are engaging in illegal Contraband Activity; not punishing all of us for their Crimes.
11/12/2025)

2577. I'm completely opposed to the idea of not being allowed to receive my original mail. Like others, I believe that receiving my original letters helps psychologically in cases of imprisonment. I believe the IDOC is more than capable of keeping contraband out without resorting to the proposed measures. However, if the measures will be passed, there are some changes I'd appreciate seeing. 20.525.140(i) deals with mail that will be potentially prohibited from being received by individuals. From what I gather it applies to all proposed prohibitions including but not limited to mail being "returned to sender". However, my current facility and, from what I'm told, others say that this rule does not apply to the situation of mail being "returned to sender". Some clarification seems to be needed in respect to this situation as it does cause issue when the notification of return and/or the reason for the return is not given, as has happened to me. Also, I do not see anything specifically regarding photographs coming from third party printing companies and wonder if these would be considered "publications" from a

"publisher". Next, It is my hope that facilities will give individuals the option to send the original received mail home but I would suggest the possibility of adding language to that effect. Finally, I think 20.525.230(c)1 and 2 regarding supportive statements for publications under review, as well as 20.525.230(g) regarding the characteristic content of a previously denied publication changing enough to have the publication reviewed again, should continue to be overtly stated in the proposed changes and not removed. (11/12/2025)

2578. It is outragous that the department is stopping physical mail dispite the so call drugs coming into prisons when drugs have been coming into prisons since forever this topic is nothing new too the department so why stop the mail now prisons are already really behind on mail all the time anyways it takes a whole month too get letters pictures ect. No matter when stuff gets sent i think the correctional officers need too be screened more throughly because they bring in books, word searchs, cross words puzzles, Sudokus and all types of papers. Physcial mail is very important too inmates in the long run i believe this new system is going too be more problamatic then helpful (11/12/2025)

2579. Its wrong! Mail and pictures are a keepsake that hold memories and senament moments so what about immates who get mail and pictures via tablet from a family menber and that person passes away that mail only last a short period of time on the tablet b4 its deleated where as that mail coming from that person if given to in person is something i can have for ever (11/12/2025)

2580. I just got a card from my mother that type of stuff is important and i have alot of time so to have something on your tablet for only 6 months thats a problem some things like photos of people you lost you cant tell somebody they only have 6 months morn. There gotta be a better way. (11/12/2025)

2581. I disagee with the mail changes being able to read my mail from my kids and family and not getting holiday cards are very stressful and heartbreaking. (11/12/2025)

2582. I am opposed to the proposed mail changes because it diminishes the personal and sentimental value of personal letters, cards, and pictures from family friends and other loved ones. (11/12/2025)

2583. Why change the mail if i get a letter or some pictures my love one send me i can not get them have to look at it on a tablet and after 6 months you guys destroy them thats not right picture's are for memorys now you guys are taking that away everybody thats incarcerated is not doing wrong (11/12/2025)

2584. i believe that the mew mail process is voilating our right to keep mail because if we recieve physical copies of our mail, pictures, and obituraries we are able to keep them for as long as we want, where as by idoc scanning our mail we can only keep for 6 months which isn't fair. if i recieve pictures of my son i can only keep them for 6 months, what if i had life and these pictures are all i have but idoc won't allow me to keep them, same as of i recieved an obiturary. the system is becomimg more and more unfair. (11/12/2025)

2585. I am against the new mail proceedures because it makes me feel connected to my people when i recieve mail that they took time out of the daily struggles that they experience on a daily basis to show me love and support. To be able to hold and touch something that wanted me to touch and feel the love that they have for me makes the difference in this difficult situation and to be able to read it whenever i'd like for as long as i'd like would make my time in this situation a little more barable. (11/12/2025)

2586. The mail changes are not too much of a problem but in my opinion were I see a problem with and many others whom I talk to is that I have just under 6 years left and I wont be able to get another bday or holiday card or just a card letting me know my loved ones are thinking about me ever again and I get alot of those type of cards. I believe its unfair that all I would get is a paper copy of what it looks like. Or even photos sent to me because this is how I have to watch my kids grow up and Ive been gone over 10 years. Somethings have to change to were that type of stuff may get in cause to have it put on the tablet for 6 months is not right. (11/12/2025)

2587. I feel like we should not all be punished for certain Individual's action's on receiveing contraband through our mailing system. I would still love to receive my original Birthday Card's, Letter's & pictures. Instead of just seeing them for a few month's on my tablet & then there gone forever! (11/12/2025)

2588. I understand the need to prevent drugs coming in using mail, but that is the job of security to properly process the incoming mail, not to prevent us from having mail from our loved ones that we can hold in our hands, to know that this letter came personally from them and was also held in their hands as well,this simple thing means alot to us that is doing real time. (11/12/2025)

2589. I UNDERSTAND WHY THE MAIL PROCESS IS GOING ON, HOWEVER I FEEL THAT SINCE THE MAIL IS BEING SCANED WE AS INDIVISUAL IN CUSTODY SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET CARDS FROM OUR KIDS THAT HAVE DRAWINGS AND COLORING IN IT..ITS ALL INNOCENT DRAWINGS AND COLORING. (11/12/2025)

2590. I feel like the mail should be getting processed faster with the new system in play! (11/12/2025)

2591. I do not agree with the mailroom no longer allowing books sent from family/friends. Many people do not shop online to have things sent directly from the vendors, as many good book items can be purchased at dollar stores where a lot of our families shop. (11/12/2025)

2592. I disagree with the proposed rule!I had my legal mail opened and scanned,something that was not supposedly supposed to happen.Plus, now the mail is even slower than before,because the mailroom has to scan each piece of mail,and have not,and will not be able to make copies of all the mail when requested.Lastly, some of the mail scanned to one person went to other people tablet.THIS IS A WASTE OF PAPER WHEN IDOC SAYS THEY DON'T HAVE MONEY FOR PROGRAMS TO HELP REHABILITATE IIC!! (11/12/2025)

2593. I am not against the digitalization of mail, especially if it will allow me to receive it in a more timely fashion. I have now received my mail in full color however i have still received a

confiscation slip for one thing i was sent because it was containing crayon or colored pencil. If we are digitalizing the mail i see no reason i cannot receive this on my tablet. As far as publications go so long as my understanding is that books and magazines as long as they come from the publisher or an online major book store or club, such as Amazon, we will receive those in prompt fashion. With the advancement of technology I.D.O.C. is doing what it can to keep us as up to date as possible with security in mind. I thank you for trying to keep us informed and up to date as this will aid in the reintegration into an ever advancing society. There is a long ways to go and many more things that could be done. (11/12/2025)

2594. I am certain this will cause so many more man hours of work for your employees, and will cost the department so much in paper and ink.
Only keeping our mail for a limited time is problematic as well. We should be allowed to send the originals out to whomever we want or release them on a visit, much like we can with other personal property.
The scanners currently being used are low quality and every piece of mail I have received has had the pages in a mixed up order. This is not a good enough replacement for our real mail. (11/12/2025)

2595. I am certain this will cause so many more man hours of work for your employees, and will cost the department so much in paper and ink.
Only keeping our mail for a limited time is problematic as well. We should be allowed to send the originals out to whomever we want or release them on a visit, much like we can with other personal property.
The scanners currently being used are low quality and every piece of mail I have received has had the pages in a mixed up order. This is not a good enough replacement for our real mail. (11/12/2025)

2596. Honestly i think it goes past the law of not jus allowing others to open your mail; but also send you electric mail which problems of not sending everything thats in the mail. Such as: Name , address, pictures, etc. (11/12/2025)

2597. About this place or the mail system i think its slow and ridiculious i wish they never did come out with electronic mail because we cant get everything people order things and hold us hostage for no reason or they keep it or throw it away (11/12/2025)

2598. I feel that the new mail process has made it safer for people but has also made it more complicated at the same time . it now takes longer for us to recieve letters and pictures from loved ones do to the facility having to scan everything to our tablets for example my loved ones sent a letter over 2 weeks ago and i still have yet to recieve it (11/12/2025)

2599. The idea of hindering ownership of books is quite unconstitutional. When all our mail is already searched. Punish every inmate for the actions of others. I dont gamble,yet i cant have dice for games like monopoly, or dungeons and dragons. I cant own hard covers because others smuggle items in books. Or make armour type things out of them. Its absurd that you think the way to solve problems is to punish those who have nothingto do with violations of rules. Island i read,and i write. So why should i be hindered in my ownership of books? Why should i be

punished for rules i didnt violate? You should workto help people. And reward people who adhere to the rules.. But you seem to care moreabout job security than you do to help others. Thecruelest of all is denying us the physical access to mail that could be the last form of contact we have with someone. The world is unpredictible and loss comes to everyone. The only forms we have to remember them by are letters. And you choose to take them from us. For what? Its not ing to change anything but the building of resentment. The cause of pain. Have you ever been jurt by domeone? Did it make you like them?how didyou feel towardthe world that hurt you?
Did it make you bitter? And angry? Then why would you think doing the same thingto others would do anything different? (11/12/2025)

2600. Good job but it sound dumb but i guess wat ever make yall happy go for it (11/12/2025)

2601. I disagree with not being able to get my mail and card from my family. (11/12/2025)

2602. I approve (11/12/2025)

2603. Yes, its better. (11/12/2025)

2604. This shit sucks (11/12/2025)

2605. Rule change for me is great . (11/12/2025)

2606. Okay (11/12/2025)

2607. Mail should be back like it was regalur (11/12/2025)

2608. Keep the mail as is (11/12/2025)

2609. Its not right to go through what we have to go through (11/12/2025)

2610. Its not fair because everybody like myself will like getting they real mail (11/12/2025)

2611. Its good to prevent drugs from coming in (11/12/2025)

2612. Its dumb (11/12/2025)

2613. It shouldnt be allowed (11/12/2025)

2614. I think its a great idea (11/12/2025)

2615. I think it sucks (11/12/2025)

2616. I suport any method that will benefit all parties concerned as long as it doesn't cause dismay, regrets and confusion. Also its not based on false acqusations or asumptions (11/12/2025)

2617. I like the new mail order it keeps the drugs out maybe (11/12/2025)

2618. I have no problems with it. I don't receive much mail anyway. (11/12/2025)

2619. I hate how the mail is being done .. I want my physical mail. (11/12/2025)

2620. I dont like it but i cant do anything about whats going on. (11/12/2025)

2621. So glad the IDOC is doing something about these drugs. Hate, though, that it came down to totally disfiguring the mail system. But whatever it takes. I can't tell you how many cellies I've had that have either got drugs via mail or have had major addictions to the shit and have got so high and strung out that I've feared I'll have to go to seg under investigation because they overdosed. Anyways. Glad the shit will faze out over the next year or so. Perhaps we can have an app on here for books? Not that we wouldn't be allowed to purchase books in their physical form from reputable sellers of books if an app to purchase digital books (fiction, non-fiction, science, math, etc.) would be develpoed for the tablets. Just that it would be nice and would help free up the mail system some so they may focus on digitizing mail instead of processing books. THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE DRUGS OUT OF THE DOC!!! (11/12/2025)

2622. No I don't like the new way IDOC is doing the mail. I like it beter the old way how mail was passed out by the house sargent or by CO. (11/12/2025)

2623. Its wrong on many levels it was already hard getting mail before now its taking longer this is a place that does everything on its on timing (11/12/2025)

2624. It is what it is could be a lot worst. (11/12/2025)

2625. I really like the old way how thing are done? (11/12/2025)

2626. I rather have mail in person then on the tablet because it delete in 6 months (11/12/2025)

2627. I do so declare that the new mailing system is critically unsatisfactory. It is a burden to inmate and staff and, ultimately, will not serve the purpose it is intended to serve. Albeit it is a typical red-tape, beaurocratic paper fix, and I suppose it does serve that purpose. So, do as will be done, this is my view from cell 69. (11/12/2025)

2628. Don't care for the new way to do the mail. Can't get the real pictures from family now, have to get paper copy from the mail room if i want the picture. I would like the real pictures that my sent in. (11/12/2025)

2629. Causes more stress and headache and farther delaying our already dinosaur slow mail delivery. (11/12/2025)

2630. Bullshit (11/12/2025)

2631. The need to receive my legal mail in hand is the most important aspecr to me. As long as i can receive these docs then i will be fine. (11/12/2025)

2632. The new mail system is terrible as i cannot recieve my bible stuby lessons anymore. (11/12/2025)

2633. I think that its great that yall are taking better action with and towards the mail and other things along that line so that no one ODs and everyone is safe including staff (11/12/2025)

2634. I dont think people ia going to like that very much the department of corrections is invaiding our private life and shit which i dont get any mail but fuck the system forreal yall corrupt as fuck to he honest (11/12/2025)

2635. Its not the mail that is the prpblem of drugs etc., its the C.O.s that bring it in to the inmates. This mail thing is just another way to isolate inmates from the outside world and those that really care and fight for inmate rights. The Gov., and Springfield beleaves what they are being told with out investigating the trueth because they dont give a flip about what is before them. (11/12/2025)

2636. The correctional officers are not above reproach i believe they are the providers of a lot of contraband that enters the facility. This is barely looked into. (11/12/2025)

2637. The 'proposed' changes to mail prcedures are confirmation that ALL employees of IDOC are NOT pro-habilition nor rehabilitation! This is another tool to further divide family & friends of prisoners, to dehumanize, inflict undue punishment, and cause even more mental-emotional- & spiritual abuse of prisoners and their loved ones! Instead of using the procedures for people who actually violate the mail process, you all are taking away a vital connection to humanity for everyone! No longer will we be able to recieve obituaries, milestone moments of or children learning to express themselves to us through writing and art, nor will we ever again be able to feel our loved ones energy through the self energized stationary they send us. Even with all the evidence that, prolonged exposure to digital interactions leads to degradation in human ability to socialize and recognize reality; but you all ignore this! There is no valid reason to further restrict prisoners, especially their physical mail, that justifies these new procedures except for doing it in the name of cruelty! Every so called reason for doing this has been proven, through various studies, research, and investigations to be unneccessary and often untrue. My ultimate comment is to not do this!!! And that this proves, by action, that there does not exist within the system nor the so called people who run it - a desire for humanity and the healing and corrections of the human beings that are animalized in cages! Thank you for the truth! (11/12/2025)

2638. This some bullshit we should not be gettig did like this do to some one else bullshit the people who the shit its coming throuth should have to deal with that not everybody (11/12/2025)

2639. I would like to say i think this is by far the best news yet to come ive received on my tablet. Coming from an addicts point of view i want to thank idoc for implementing this decision! Unfortunately i wish it couldve happened sooner to maybe slow down the laced chemical drug paper. I can say this parole violation stay has tramuatized me to the poiny i will

never use any mind alternating drug. I will continue to pray for the indivduals to get through this trial in their lives.. Its sad and i feel sorry seeing the individuals around here like zombies. I truly want to thank you for your concerns! Thanks Again...
(11/12/2025)

2640. Idoc is dumb stopping mail is not stopping anything. (11/12/2025)

2641. Idoc. Took our mail away trying to stop any contraband coming in from outside focus on drugs ,nothing has changed yet ,the smoking still is going on every day in here. (11/12/2025)

2642. Im loving the tasks everything going well i wish it was for familes outside of here as well (11/12/2025)

2643. We are getting penalized for what the officers are bringing in to the prison (11/12/2025)

2644. Yall petty as hell for this silly shit i hate all yall bitch ass (11/12/2025)

2645. Leave us alone and let us live, no body can be blamed for wrong doing but the guilty..... (11/12/2025)

2646. Throw the whole system away (11/12/2025)

2647. We all need to know if the mail you recieve goes in our master file until the day we are released to go home if we get our mail back or does it get thrown away. I need to know cause its important mail to me that i get it when i leave the facility, its my mail its illegal to throw my personal mail away. (11/13/2025)

2648. Publications can only come from publishers. I understand that, but what about books that come from oganizations for example: Chicago Books To Women In Prison, being that I am transgender, they have previously sent books and other publications free of charge to me, and/or to other transgender or women in Logan, Decatur. Will this be allowed to continue? I also get an independent newspaper, that is mass media will this be able to continue? (11/13/2025)

2649. WhÃ t kind of drugs are you testiÃ±g for (11/13/2025)

2650. Why cant you test all my photos and mail for drugs thÃ t are all origals (11/13/2025)

2651. CaÃ± i reqest to have my original photos returned to my sender (11/13/2025)

2652. I understand why its being done. BUT, Here is the issue as of now. As an individual in custody that just got out of segregation for 28 days, We are not aloud access to our tablets AT ALL. So, How are we supposed to get our mail in Segreation? Here in Shawnee C. C. We arent even aloud as much as a phone call in SEG, other facilities allow those in SEG to make at least 1 phone call a week. We are not aloud that here at all. The way they would put it is that they will "print" our mail for us in SEG, but they are not doing that. How can we reach our loved ones if

we arent having our mail printed or being given a phone call a week? (11/13/2025)

2653. I have no problems with the mail scanning process. What I do have a problem with, is not having a physical copy of my mail and/or pictures. The tablet is not mine, and if I am nolonger in possession of the tablet, what happens to my mail or pictures? If you destroy my mail or pictures after a certain point, and I nolonger has the tablet, I will nolonger have important pictures or mail that are important, and sentimental. I want to be able to request a physical copy of my mail and/or pictures. (11/13/2025)

2654. I would wanna recieve my hard copy of my pictures,or have them scan and i have them sent back home at my cost, (11/13/2025)

2655. I believe that it may be a good start, we just need to adjust to the electronic mail and the msil room needs to adjustcto their copying of the the mail when they put it on the tablets, right now they cut off the last part of the mail I think that I will like the electronic way, especially if it will stop the drugs from coming into the institution, it has been a long time coming. (11/13/2025)

2656. I have no problem with this, but, if we ask for printed copies of our mail, they should be given to us. For example i have numerous health problems and often get medical records sent to me. I want these records on paper for my use. (11/13/2025)

2657. Too be honest there shall be alot of changes in IDOC and DOC cookcounty jail. Approve drug programs for people like me working my recovery surrending through God and Jesus Christ.Staff thats reliable too show up too work everyday for educateding us inmates. Also how to become trade workers with our hand (11/13/2025)

2658. The mail process is a great idea, however not getting our printed copies as promised is frustrating! (11/13/2025)

2659. Alert us when are mail gets to the facility (11/13/2025)

2660. Mailscan app should have quick print option, so if I need paper mail I know I can get it. (11/13/2025)

2661. I think its unconstitutional what theyre doing with our mail (11/13/2025)

2662. I dont like my photos being scanned (11/13/2025)

2663. I think it is not right because some ppl dont have accsess to tablets and that would interfer with peoples communication with their family and pictures of loved ones (11/13/2025)

2664. I want to receive my pictures that my family send me. So i can put them in my photo album. I dont want them scaned. Please stop scanning photos and give them to us. (11/13/2025)

2665. It is not good here. We can not even get a paper copy right now. Then the pictures are

only on there for 6 months. So my pictures are gone after 6 months. We dont get much here but when we get mail and pictures we can keep forever. Just go bsck to the way it was (11/13/2025)

2666. My name is Glen.Waldrup, I have been incarcerated in the Illinois Department of Corrections for 27 years now. In regards to the new mail rules i feel that they are to strict. From my experience being locked up in many different facilities it has been the Correctional Staff who bring drugs or contraband to the inmates. I understand that some drugs have entered facilities through the mail service, however any inmate takes a risk of getting busted and put in seg. Knowing that all mail is searched before given to him/her. The mail provides alot more in regards to education for example, books, correspondence courses, etc.-or family photos that a prisoner does not want destroyed. From my understanding once the photos are put on the tablet they are taken off in 6 months and the original are destroyed. Please bring back the mail service. (11/13/2025)

2667. This is causing a delay in all mail. Instead of the mail taking a 3-4 day's, now it takes 2-3 weeks. This effects the transcripts that are supposed to come in. There is also a delay on the pictures some people are waiting months on pictures. I feel that this is a major inconvience for people trying to stay in touch through the mail and pictures, and its also a big inconvience to the people waiting on transcripts to get in school. (11/13/2025)

2668. This new policy will not stop drugs from coming in to the prison system, the cell phones and molly dont come in the mail ,so what can a thoughtful person conclude from those facts? (11/13/2025)

2669. I understand that the mailroom is swamped and understaffed but i didnt like the xopy of the birthday card i got at Stateville. It tacky at best and almost a waste of money for family to go spend upwards of 6 dollars for a card, send it, to be a black and white copy. (11/13/2025)

2670. Placing a digital image instead of receiving an original hard copy of our mail is a failure! I have seven "print mail requests" in to the prison mail room, beginning Octber 11, 2025 and most resubmitted on the required form a week later. These included a bank deposit, investment information, an appeal from a non-profit with a return envelope, and a twelve-page magazine article sent by a former German exchange student. Nothing as of last night has come of my requests as IDOC had promised.

I have hundeds of pages from a manuscript I am editing plus my family can no longer send a weekly planning calendar or religious devotional material already paid for under the new digital plan.

Some inmates are still getting "high" since this new mail scheme was initiated, so if that was the intent, it has failed here, too.

Go back to the way it was. PLEASE.

Respectfully,

Charles Bickerstaff, M05306

Danville CC

(11/13/2025)

2671. I dont feel like this is the right thing to do. Its hard to see your mail or to recieve your

mail after they put it on the tablet (11/13/2025)

2672. I dont get to keep my personal mail only photo copies and its not even close to the same thing as having my actual mail (11/13/2025)

2673. I dont like it because it makes it harder for my wife to get me mail and to send me photo's of my family. Also it is harder to get our legal mail. It just makes things that much harder for our family's. It is already hard on them so now the state just wants to make things that much more difficulte for them. They have to go thrugh so much to get visit's, or phone calls, or video visit's that now the kids cant send pictuers they draw for, me or nothing like that. Now i know that i am in prison but it's not like i am a truble maker or i do drugs or try to make it hard for the officers to do thier jobs. So people like medont have anything to look forward to so we act out. The most important thing in this world to me is my family and you make it so hard to see, talk to, get mail from or anything else WHY? (11/13/2025)

2674. The very fact the proposed changes include provisions meant to ensure a faithful reproduction of the original document received, indicates that there is an inherent fundametal acknowledgement that mail is not simply binary bits of data but rather the collective of both information AND the physical tangible document itself. To remove ones access to any part of the combined two is arbitrarily restrictive and cheapens the whole idea of receiving mail. The phone call equivalent would be if you could no longer hear your loved one's voice but instead heard a transcribed roboticized "faithful recreation" of their voice. This very obviously defeats the intended purpose of a call which isnt simply information exchange but carries an emotional component we all recognize. Mail is the same in respect to the fact we value less the specific contents of information and more so the object itself (barring legal correspondence, ect.) And the rule change identifies this reality yet nonetheless feels there is nothing lost in the copying/dustruction of ones mail. I challenge this and offer that EVERYTHING is lost by doing that. What you are left with is a digital farce, a hollow empty shell of whatever you should have received. So I object to this proposed change on those grounds and those alone. I support the ostensible desire to limit the flow of illicit chemicals but don't believe the trade off is worth it nor do I really believe it will stem the rising tide of drugs within the DOC as a whole. Thank you. (11/13/2025)

2675. There is something different about receiving your mail in a physical form opposed to getting it on a device. When you receive a piece of mail whether it be pictures a letter a book or a card it makes you feel loved & cared for & thought about. It makes you feel good that someone cared enough to take the time out of their life to send you this. So to take away the mail process by putting our pictures etc on the tablet & then deleting them after a certain period & throwing away the physical copy is stripping us of the memory the mail provides the intimacy & the sentimental value of us receiving our physical mail. Thank you. (11/13/2025)

2676. There's nothing like holding the physical mail or pictures from your love ones. To know that they put thought an love in sending pictures or letters it just nothing like it sintamental vule is real. And i charish my pictures an letters from my family and friends this hole 20yrs i've been locked up. (11/13/2025)

2677. This is a good idia some what but some would still like there mail with in there own hands to read our mail is what gets us throug the day and makes us happy along the way .we can know that all is ok (11/13/2025)

2678. I feel we should be able to receive our mail regular not through a screen . its something we wamt to hold onto forever (11/13/2025)

2679. I think its wrong for us not to get pictures made for us by our kids or cards sent from our loved ones just because someone else wants to do something dumb we all gotta pay...youll never stop w.e your trying to stop (11/13/2025)

2680. I think that taking physical mail from people is wrong. Thats the only thing people get to look forward to when in jail because its close to home and its touched by loved ones (11/13/2025)

2681. I think the mail change is wrong and unjust and does not stop its intended purpose. Drugs still get in. However it now takes away inmates ability to have sentamental property that can help promote rehabilataion. A phsycal letter or picture from a loved one can help mental health and wellness. I also see personal privicy concearns with mail being kept and scanned. I belive the mail should go back to normal and instead look into officers who are making 100k a day to bring in pages of drugs into the wall. Yes that is actually happing. (11/13/2025)

2682. I truly feel the current actions being taken are futile.My loved ones along with friends send pictures and cards to celebrate holidays,birthdays,etc. And now I can no longer receive such items unless its placed on the tablet for six months or I request a print out which is then placed on a piece of paper.I would rather those who brake the rules and regulations or law be punished. (11/13/2025)

2683. I dont like it cause i dont have my mail my family sends me to take home. (11/13/2025)

2684. I feel like it violates our rights because mail is personal. your family takes time to write you and you only recieve a copy of it takes the sentimental (if i spelled that right) value out of it. i understand idoc wanting to make things safer but still they need to find another way. (11/13/2025)

2685. I feel the mail should go back to physical mail because my children like to draw and send me their pictures so i would like to be able to keep the drawings or pictures they send. (11/13/2025)

2686. I have a older family so they dont kno how to find apps to send me books and pics. Leave the mail alone (11/13/2025)

2687. I dont like this process. My mail have been scaned and i was told to write the mail room to get a copy of my mail. It has been a month and i have yet to get a copy. (11/13/2025)

2688. I understand the system has chane but i have not recieved my photos that my family sent

me almost 3 weeks ago which was 10-31-25 an today is 11-13-25 and yet do not have my photos (11/13/2025)

2689. The new log in mail system is even slower you dont get notifications after receiving anything,and the mail being discarded after copied is not right mail cards should go back to sender. (11/13/2025)

2690. The program is not working as intended. The mailroom has not printed me a copy of my brother's affidavit, which Ineed immediately to attach to a pleading I intend to file in the court. Also, the mailroom refused to print a copy of my sister's lettet necause it contained tax forms So what. it's my.damnail. Lastly, the mailroom is scanninh mail coming from a brokerage dirm with forms I need to fill out and return as well as other dovumemts with my account.information. (11/13/2025)

2691. The way you are having the mail right now is taken months for us to get any of our mail. I say that because my family sent cards ouy on Oct. 9, 2025 and i didnt receive it till today Nov. 13, 2025. It should not take that long for the mail to get to us. Plus ive been asking from copies of my mail back from Oct. 2025 and still to this I still have not got any copies of my mail. why??? Is it taken so long. By the time 6 months is up it will be to late. I would like to get my mail regular instead of being scaned. Because its jut taken to much time and we dont get our copies like we said we would get when asked for. Where is my copies of my mail?? (11/13/2025)

2692. I like it, just wish Logan Correctional Center had more/better mail room employees. (11/13/2025)

2693. I think that the paper mail elimanation is slow, it takes mails that should not be posted such as approved corospondence from blackstone paralegal program (11/13/2025)

2694. I comepletly understand why the mail process is being changed but its almost as if we never get our mail from our family an loved ones and if it does come its furthered the process to the point where it could be as long as a month if not longer. Honestly feels like a way for the postal service at IDOC facilities to prolong getting the mail to us. If we get it at all. Sucks cuz i write and still have yet to get anything on the tablet and its been weeks since my family sent letting and pictures. If this process was timly it would likely widely be more accepted. (11/13/2025)

2695. I do not like how it is being done now because when we get pic or anything that has to do with family you guys scan it and do what ever with the other stuff. (11/13/2025)

2696. I don't mind the changes concerning the mail, when it comes to stoping the drug problem. I have a problem with the time firm concerning receiving pictures. Pictures are moments one shares with family and friends. It shouldn't take a month to receive pictures. (11/13/2025)

2697. I feel like the mail thing is good and bad good cause it helps.get the drugs out of the prisons but its bad cause i cant access my legal mail or my regious material inless its with in the kiosk times and that aint right cause i might want to wake up at 2:00am and do some legal work

or read my daily bread and cant to it cause i cant get on the kiosk and thats not right i mean for the people that cant afford music i should be able to listen to my radio all day any time of day but you cant thats something that should be fixed. If you want us to be able to really change our lifes dont put a time limit on our progress cause some people sleep all day and stay up all night (11/13/2025)

2698. I feel our pictures should come quicker and would should be able to get robert green books (11/13/2025)

2699. I have been told through IDOC stated policy that I would receive paper copies of letters that were received in the mailroom. DANCC is already failing at this IDOC policy. Therefore, DANCC is obstructing my/our access to the courts: Jones v. Van Lanen, 27 F.4th 1280 (7th Cir 2022). Also see, Amaya v. Frank, 21-cv-01707-SPM (S.D. Ill. May 29, 2025). (11/13/2025)

2700. I have been waiting for a month for my mail to pop up on my tablet and i write the mail room and they wont give me a respond to let me know whats the hold up or if they even got it , these mail changes suck and they have only caused problems and more reasons for the prisons to hold our mail even longer (11/13/2025)

2701. I dont get mail so i doesnt effect me. (11/13/2025)

2702. Dont have any comments right now at the time (11/13/2025)

2703. Doesnt matter to me i dont get mail anyways (11/13/2025)

2704. Woud rather have the mail back to the way it was (11/13/2025)

2705. This mail shit is fucked up the co's are bringing in the drugs so why are we paying for it with no mail and late mail (11/13/2025)

2706. It dont make sense to stop regular mail its a loophole for prisons to play more games against targeted individusal in custody. (11/13/2025)

2707. I feel this the dumbest shit yall ever did! Taking what helps me cope the most!!! (11/13/2025)

2708. I dont think its fair to every one (11/13/2025)

2709. I dont like it, i think its stupid. I understand the reason why it was started, but i still dont like it. (11/13/2025)

2710. Its crazy cuz our faimly can really write us or no one like having to use the tablet to read they mail
(11/13/2025)

2711. Personally, I just believe you guys should really consider how important mail is to

individual in custody. Please consider also how some correctional facilities abuse there authority by using oppressive methods, which prevent incarcerated individual the access to outside communication. (11/13/2025)

2712. The Correctional Officers are responsible for drugs and contraband entrying the facility. No inmate of reasonable intelligence would send for drugs in the mail. Drugs that are in the facility got here by staff. (11/13/2025)

2713. Will save life's (11/13/2025)

2714. This is working very well for me. (11/13/2025)

2715. Its not so bad!! (11/13/2025)

2716. Its a good idea but the drug situation is still going on in the housing units (11/13/2025)

2717. Its about time (11/13/2025)

2718. Its better and faster (11/13/2025)

2719. I think the mail changes would be great and help ensure i recieve my books i would like to order.
(11/13/2025)

2720. Thats good that yall sending all the mail to the tablet becuase its people like me that dont smoke and this need to end with these guy being able to get that that sould not never happen so its good that yall got that going. Mabe for people like me that dont smoke that way i want end up and the cell with somebody that do (11/13/2025)

2721. The proposed "mail process changes" are warranted for the reasons given... drugs and federal violations to the U.S. Postal Mail System, I empathize ; however, though, the nostolgic, historical, vanishing, and strugling U. S. Post Office delivery of mail changes. We must perserve the sanctity, history, and artistry of the U.S. Postal System and not contibute to
it's extinction! (11/13/2025)

2722. I feel that the mail should come to are hand!!! (11/13/2025)

2723. I really believe we should stick with paper mail (11/13/2025)

2724. I think the changes are necessary. I was so happy when I got to Kewanee a d saw none of the drug abuse that was rampant at Western c.c.. It cannot happen soon enough. (11/13/2025)

2725. I understand the Dept has to do something about the safty of the staff and other inmates. I just wish there was a way they could focus their efforts on the individuals causing this problem. Bit I do understand the position the Dept. is in. (11/13/2025)

2726. I think that this is a very good idea, because if one is trying to truly chage his life and stay out of trouble, with this new paper drug, it is easy to get into a physical altercation with a person under the influance of this drug, and now we are sitting in segregation with a disciplinary infraction that was not our cause. This fact must not be over-looked please and thank you (11/13/2025)

2727. I think mail should go back to the way it was ky pictures are only for a certain time then they get deleted or even the fact i cant bring them back home even with my letters its not right i understand things have to change but not the mail (11/13/2025)

2728. I think it is about time yall done something about whats been going on. Its crazy to be in idoc and see/know people are either over doing it or die cause of some paper crap. Just have to focus on other ways its comimg in. I dont like the stuff so good luck... (11/13/2025)

2729. I am of the belief that the new policy regarding mail is not only ineffective, but downright draconian. The sentiment behind this proposed policy is to cut down on the amount of contraband (namely drugs) that are floating around these facilitiea. However, even the most cursory attempts at critical thinking will dismantle said argument. The mail is already subject to intense scrutiny and most, if not all inmates, recognize the frivolity in trying to smuggle things in this way. If anything it isnt the mailing system, but the staff who is to blame. At every turn when things happen the knee jerk reaction of the staff, and the state, is to take things away from incarcerated individuals rather than address the problem at its root. If the goal is to stymie contraband then the state needs to inspect its own camp and clean house. (11/13/2025)

2730. I feel this rule might stop drugs from coming through the mail a little more but i feel and i know from past that this has been an ongoing issue and that drugs will still be inside the prizons people will find a way to get what they want in the end this to me will only prolong the enebitable (11/13/2025)

2731. Ok (11/13/2025)

2732. Okay check (11/13/2025)

2733. Why, nothing i say matters. (11/13/2025)

2734. Yes (11/13/2025)

2735. Not sure. . (11/13/2025)

2736. Okay
(11/13/2025)

2737. I was worried about not getting mail if and when a person in custody goes to segragation? Do those people in seg. have access to the tablet to see the dayly mail coming in to them? On another worry is if something goes wrong with our tablet whether it is a pen number problem or a glitch, or not getting yours in a timely manner to where youll miss days or weeks of not

checking your mail and messages. You cant access your account and mail on the wing kiosk. What are we to do if we cant get our pictures and cards and letters when we should be getting them not weeks late. (11/14/2025)

2738. Can we recieve picture that our family sends in by mail, or they go on the tablets. Are we aloud to have copies of them or what. (11/14/2025)

2739. How wil this help me in the lone run (11/14/2025)

2740. Please allow for publications that have previously been banned. I am not asking for illegal material. For 20 + years magazines with explicit content have been banned. In those 20 years there has been no drop off in any inmate to staff assaults or inmate on inmate assaults as is used as a reason for banning them in the first place. The data is in and the excuse for banning them has been proven to be a false narrative. So as long as magazines or publications come from a publisher and they are not illegal we should be allowed to get them since there is no longer a justifiable reason to ban them. (11/14/2025)

2741. Publication changes that would encourage abuse of authority.
[525.220(c)] publication 30day notice of arrival and review.
[525.220(c)(5)] if approved forword to offender/ 60 days wait denied
[525.220(d)] if denied explanation to chief admin
I recently had a publication withheld for 8 months. No notification of arrival, in fact, the counselors answer to my grivance was that they did not have the publication. The grievance officer and warden refuses to respond to my request for a second level review. At the same time Springfields Admin Review Board requested their response. Given their request the 2nd level was still ignored.
I am experiencing the same thing again now. I have 2 publications I know to be at Clinical Services Office for 2 months now with no notifiction, and they have ignored my written requests to let me mail them out. It is common practice to 'lose' publications, request, and paperwork for several months at a time. So even if a publication is approved if they simply 'lose' it, or do not get to it in 60 days under the current rules they interpret the situatin as they see fit.
The above changes would embolden and reinforce their actions, as they are not following the rules now. Abuse should not be legitimized.
Additionally
[525.220(f)] 6 consecutive issues--banned publications
An established practice in reality, the facility does not wait for 6 issues of a book series to be published, or allow the books to be sent to the publication review board in Springfield. Instead they say that they (the staff here at the facility) are the review board. The facility will ban titles after the first or second issue before any other volume is even availible to the public. They have done this to titles that I have been able to personally verify do not have objectional material.
We need more accountability not less. These changes only seek to bolster those who would be abbusive to a vulnerable population. Often without reprsentation or recourse when we are wronged. (11/14/2025)

2742. This program should only be for those that violate normal mail procedures. It is hard enough to get our mail correctly delivered to us, and now we may never know if something was

delivered to us as there is no way to notify that it was delivered to the wrong person. (11/14/2025)

2743. The warden at illinois river has banned hardcover books to prevent the introduction of contraband. Now that IDOC has mandated all books must come from a bookseller or publisher, please consider removing the ban on hardvover books. (11/14/2025)

2744. This is literally an federal offense. It really makes no sense to tamper with an individual's in custody mail. We should not have to suffer because IDOC staff can't do their job. What about the individual's who don't have anything to do with contraband? That stay far away from things like that. IDOC seem to always take their anger and fustration out on ALL individual's , which is in no way fair , ethical , or adequate. Things need to change. (11/14/2025)

2745. The mail change is a stressful situation. Everyone should not suffer for someone else problem. (11/14/2025)

2746. This mail situation is unconstitutional we need our pictures of our family the way they sent them not copied and go from color to black and white and if we leave this joint we lose all of our mail because we have to turn in our tablets to the facility we lose photos legal work and more (11/14/2025)

2747. As you see they have had the mail change for a month and this so call drug problem that (IDOC) is saying that it is having so that it is not coming in the mail, cause if mail is now on the tablet how come is this still getting in the prison. On top of that it no way for people ti get the mail thatbit needs cause the prison still dont know who suppose to print off the copy for the people incustdy. I've been trying to get these paoers for my clemecy and they wont print ant copy for no one in Danville (11/14/2025)

2748. Highly prefer regular mail....and being able for mybmother to drop off local flyiers and midwest huntig and fishing magazines when she visits...she buys these things acrossed the road at the truck stop...it has no bug spray or any other drugs that some of these idiots want (11/14/2025)

2749. What i think about mail scan it is great for every one whom is lockup but it kind of hurt us because some of us like to hold on to our letters that just in case an love one have passaway. (11/14/2025)

2750. While i understand the dept's. concern, the intangible's imparted to physical mail from Loved one's is going to be deprived us, & We will be lesser for it. (11/14/2025)

2751. Some people cope by phsyically being able to hold and read hand written letters from their kids . (11/14/2025)

2752. It sucks because it dont feel like we actually connect now (11/14/2025)

2753. I think that we, Individuals In Custody, should continue to get photocopies of our mail including but not limited to: letters, photos, and greetings cards. Here at Big Muddy River C.C, they will not give us copiesof our mail. They tell us that BMRCC does not have a printer to copy our mail. Some guys who have 15-life want to have actual hand copies as something we can look back to and have memories of our family, kids, etc. growing up! (11/14/2025)

2754. Everytime I get a letter they cut part of it off when scanning. It would be better if they cut off part if the envelope instead. (11/14/2025)

2755. I have not been getting my mail so i dont like it at all (11/14/2025)

2756. With all of the changes being made,why does it still take the mailroom a month or longer,to issue mail? I've had pictures sent using a third party,like vendors. And those pictures were mailed to me over three weeks ago! Not to mention,when you send a request to the mailroom, there's no response in any regard. When your family calls,asking questions,they're met with disrespect and/or lies. When they ask the person they're person to whom they're speaking with,their name. They get hung up on or told,my name isn't important. As well as the fact,it's taking weeks to even place mail,on the tablet. Changes,yet the same issues in the mailroom!! (11/14/2025)

2757. The only issue i have with the mail being put on the tablet is they are sayn it will be erased every 6 months. (11/14/2025)

2758. It is very wrong to be coping our mail then having it sunt to use on our tablets. People have legal things going on. What if a person miss a deadline, and cant send legal documents on time? (11/14/2025)

2759. I think that the taking of physical mail from the individuals in custody is a ploy for the d.o.c to gain more funding for scanners that they dont need. The mail recievment rate is already slow as d.o.c can make it. This is a problem beciase ive witnessed other individuals recieve mail that wasnt theirs (11/14/2025)

2760. I received a letter and theres pages not scanned and missing (11/14/2025)

2761. Our mail is taking legit MONTHS for us to receive & same to send out, thats unexceptable. & we should be able to get printed out copies of our mail. Also we used to be able to have our people send us in cards from amazon, i do not understand why this is no longer allowed seeing as its coming right from amazon. (11/14/2025)

2762. Im ok with the mail being scanned but my issue is my letters from my husband are being cut at the end so i cant finish my letters ,is there a way fir me to get scanned copies of my letters ?if that ok to do (11/14/2025)

2763. It has become a pattern of not giving us mail from our lawyers. It was supposed to be scanned and up loaded on our tablets but thus far no communications from my lawyers has come to me here at Menard MSU in any manner. I had contracts coming to me to sign and a report

from my lawyer.from a doctor on my criminal.case we must discuss before next.month. I need.this situation to be fixed cause my freedom is at stake here and.i cant even properly respond in a timely manner cause.this prison wont give me my mail from lawyers. Thats a crime to interfer with attorney-client privileges! This situation needs to be fixed. (11/14/2025)

2764. I feel like this is a problem receiving mail as i continue to have problems with tablet due to wifi and mail from mailroom directly insured i got it on time and now this has delayed it as i am trying to establish a place to go upon release in the future. (11/14/2025)

2765. I have not been getting my mail in a timely manner. It seems to be taking even longer than before, If at all.. (11/14/2025)

2766. We should be able to still get mail because my peoples sent me pictures and they been here for a week and i still havent received them on the tablet or through mail. (11/14/2025)

2767. Mail is taking even longer than before. Also the mailroom has no idea how to print requested mail (11/14/2025)

2768. This scan and print on demand can only work if the mailroom actually prints the requested scanned product. Several people have been waiting for printed items for over thirty days.
Mailroom saying they do not know if their alowed to print anything as it might not be allowed to. What is the point of all this, if nothing gets printed? And how do I know staff are not taking my family/kids pictures home instead of destoyed? (11/14/2025)

2769. I understand the department of corrections want to protect the people living and working in these facilities, but the mail room at Vienna is not working out, you have people receiving other peoples mail and pictures which is so wrong and against the law. So please place someone at Vienna's mail room who is fit for the job. (11/14/2025)

2770. Although I commend the Director for her implication of the new mail process as it has significantly cut down the smokeable items here in Dixon, we are having problems recieving pictures. If that could be addressed it would be appreciated greatly! Thank you (11/14/2025)

2771. I do not understand how this makes the facility safer, also its taking longer now to recieve ones mail then before (11/14/2025)

2772. I dont like how the mail is being handled (11/14/2025)

2773. I dont like it (11/14/2025)

2774. I dont like it. (11/14/2025)

2775. I dont like the change (11/14/2025)

2776. Sucks (11/14/2025)

2777. We need better (11/14/2025)

2778. This will not stop the drugs (11/14/2025)

2779. this wont work. (11/14/2025)

2780. I think we should get our mail (11/14/2025)

2781. I dnt think its a good idea because half of us that's incarerated has a wife & kids who write & send's us art that our children draws us that we would love to keep! So to mos of us it's unfair (11/14/2025)

2782. Good thing stop the drugs (11/14/2025)

2783. Thats a good idea (11/14/2025)

2784. Thats a great idea. Keep them drugs out of here!!!!!!!!! (11/14/2025)

2785. Honestly the mail doesnt bother me being copied hopefully it helps to alleviate the problem with drugs coming in through the mail . (11/14/2025)

2786. It is a necessary step for the safety for everyone, staff and inmates included (11/14/2025)

2787. Very great Way to keep up with personalized mail (11/14/2025)

2788. Good job to all that are making prisons all over illinois safe again with the crazy staff that comes thur the mail god bless all (11/14/2025)

2789. Yes (11/14/2025)

2790. Ok
(11/14/2025)

2791. I honestly dont like it mail takes forever to get processed. And where does our real mail go with our families addresses on them? (11/15/2025)

2792. Pictures from a legit company should be able to still come through (11/15/2025)

2793. Picture should be able to be sent thru the apps provided. (11/15/2025)

2794. It makes sense, or make some type of machine that will scan the mail & still lets you get the original mail if passed the scan test. (11/15/2025)

2795. Allow us to be able to have pictures sent directly through our tablets by using ICsolutions.It would work better then having to have our pictures scan. (11/15/2025)

2796. 5 ideas: please create protocols and deadlines for printing copies of mail, addressing poor-quality scans & rescanning, and receiving mail while on C grade after losing tablet access. Also, create file naming protocols so mail files are saved on tablet under helpful labels rather than everything being labeled "unknown" and dumped in a random order, unable to locate later. Thank you. (11/15/2025)

2797. 1. If you up load my photos, IDOC should pay to send them back out since i cant have the originals
2. There is mail that may need to be signed and sent back out on a dead line, i should be notified and allowed to sign and send it back out if need be.
3. It should not take a period of 30 days for me to get my mail please do better, the judge have made life hard already...THANK YOU!
(11/15/2025)

2798. Drugs being brought in by staff not our mail anymore (11/15/2025)

2799. The paper drugs being brought in by staff nt mail (11/15/2025)

2800. Thats a angst the LAW (11/15/2025)

2801. Its a really bad inconvenience to not be able to receive mail cause some junky wants to smuggle roach spray to smoke .its unfair to the rest of us all (11/15/2025)

2802. Its not fair that everyone is punished in the sence of no being able to recieve oringinal mail because of the people that our breaking the rules. (11/15/2025)

2803. I dont like it. I like having pictures that my family personally sent. (11/15/2025)

2804. Its 100% wrong because I would like to be able to keep my christmas cards ect... (11/15/2025)

2805. It sucks because it dont feel like we actually connect now (11/15/2025)

2806. I want to be able to recieve my physical letters and photos or else be able to send them home because they are sentmental and special to me. (11/15/2025)

2807. I dont mind i just don't want it to slow the process of me receiving my mail. (11/15/2025)

2808. I have not been getting my mail so i dont like it at all (11/15/2025)

2809. I dont like the new idea of this mail stuff cause it has it all backed up and were not getting our mail here on on the tablet (11/15/2025)

2810. No why would yall do this worst thing that happened still didnt get my pictures been 2 months (11/15/2025)

2811. I received a letter and theres pages not scanned and missing (11/15/2025)

2812. I dont like it i want to be able to have my cards that my family sends its more meaning full then on a screen and my stuff got got off and they didnt scan inside of card i asked for a print out a month ago still havrnt recieved it (11/15/2025)

2813. Nothing is loading (11/15/2025)

2814. I have not been getting my mail in a timely manner. It seems to be taking even longer than before, If at all.. (11/15/2025)

2815. I intially sent a request to print my first piece of scanned mail about two weeks ago and didn't receive anything from the mail room . I then received a letter with lots of photos so i requested to have both the aforementioned mail printed again along with the new letter and photos , once I did receive my print outs i realized my photos are very blurry and faces can not be seen. The quality is just so terrible, it is not right that my family spends money on high quality photo printer paper and the mailing cost that comes with sending me these photos for IDOC to scan and print them using low quality equipment...needless to say I am very disappointed as I waited a long time for my family to be able to send me these photos and i can't even see the faces of my nephews (11/15/2025)

2816. I wish they would get it straight so things would run smooth (11/15/2025)

2817. Mail should be traditional and not on tablets. There have been problems with people getting others mail that doesnt belong to them (11/15/2025)

2818. I believe that it is wrong because my legal mail was opened ; when it is normally opened in front of me (11/15/2025)

2819. I dont like how the mail is being handled (11/15/2025)

2820. I dont like it (11/15/2025)

2821. I dont like it. (11/15/2025)

2822. I dont like the change (11/15/2025)

2823. This sucks (11/15/2025)

2824. I believe it should stay regular (11/15/2025)

2825. I do not agree with new changes (11/15/2025)

2826. There need be No changes to the mail system.
(11/15/2025)

2827. Stop taking our mail (11/15/2025)

2828. Need to go back to no way mailing (11/15/2025)

2829. Its bullsh** (11/15/2025)

2830. I do NOT LIKE GETTING MAIL ON THE TABLET..PREFER GETTING ACTUAL MAIL!! (11/15/2025)

2831. Good thing stop the drugs (11/15/2025)

2832. Seems smart, tired of smelling burnt paper followed by revolting smell. (11/15/2025)

2833. I like it (11/15/2025)

2834. I think it is a good way to cut down on the drugs comming into the prisons (11/15/2025)

2835. Fully support imposing strict rules governing the mail and hope to see more implementation of technology to better process incoming and outgoing mail in order to make the institutions not only safer but eco- friendly. Want to see positive change, despite the general consensus or perception of rules being imposed unnecessarily. (11/15/2025)

2836. Just wanna be able to get legal work to for my case. If it do not stop that I'm cool with just send copies of it. (11/15/2025)

2837. I believe the new way for the mail process is gunna back the mail up further then it ever has been before. (11/15/2025)

2838. Cool (11/15/2025)

2839. Yes (11/15/2025)

2840. None (11/15/2025)

2841. No comment (11/15/2025)

2842. Ok (11/15/2025)

2843. I want my original photos returned is that okay (11/16/2025)

2844. CaÃ± i get my original photos returÃ±ed to sender (11/16/2025)

2845. Allow books from booksellers and bookstores (11/16/2025)

2846. Best start watching other means of entry....supply goes down...demand goes up...along

with price...and temptation;))) (11/16/2025)

2847. I think it stuped not all of us are drug users and to have someone opwn my mail and look at it befor i get to see it is an invasion of privose (11/16/2025)

2848. Thats Crazy How We Suppose to feel loved when our people send us Cards (11/16/2025)

2849. Please deliver ALL mail in a timely manner (11/16/2025)

2850. I think the mail situation is not very good. I just got a letter from sept. Still missing mail from sept. I dont think they have a very good process (11/16/2025)

2851. I dont agree. Today i feceved mail i could not read it due to poor picture quality and it cut off half the letter. (11/16/2025)

2852. All mail is marked, unknown. You dont know who its from or if its letters or photos or what without opening each an everyone, one at a time.
At first photos from FreePrints, were not passed out, right now they are. Is this official, we can have photos from a vendor such a FreePrints. I have photos of family members who have since died. I have photos that are twenty plus years old. Six months is not acceptable. Them being digital is okay, if you wanna not be able to organize them or look at them after midnight when you cant log in the tablet.
Lastly, there is no fail safe that my digital mail wont be given to another person digitally. Atleast when its passed out, you have a last chance to make sure its deliverwd to the right person when a staff member asks you your number before getting it. Themail room has on plenty of times, wrote the wrong number and no one in the room has that name and aint been in there in years. The excuss is drugs and thats all it is an excuss. Union reps here have been pushing for this for years now. And i believe the contract recently negotiated with ISC was for this equipment for digital mail. Cause the music and games are what pays for that equipment. $160 for years worth of music with GTL. ICS only gets you a weeks worth of music. Who negotiated this deal was not in the best interest of the population that is for sure. (11/16/2025)

2853. Mr. Austin, hello my name is Lorenzo Fayne no. B26556, i'm an individual in custody here at menard corr. cen. I find myself writing to you to let you know that on this day (16-Nov-2025) I open my app. to see if i have any mail, and to my luck i did have a letter, but it was only a half of a page, the rest of the letter was missing. I would like to know who i would have to write to get the rest of my letter????? The letter was dated 11-11-25.
(11/16/2025)

2854. We need are mail back (11/16/2025)

2855. Okay with me. Keep up the good work. www.JW.Org (11/16/2025)

2856. Its bogus (11/16/2025)

2857. Its dumb (11/16/2025)

2858. Its ok , i guess (11/16/2025)

2859. It is reasonable but i would like to get my really picture but its okay (11/16/2025)

2860. I think think its a change for the enbetterment of the IDOC as a whole. (11/16/2025)

2861. I think it is a very good and safe rule change. Great job (11/16/2025)

2862. I dont care just tryung to go home (11/16/2025)

2863. good (11/16/2025)

2864. I dont like it we should get pictures and mail in person still thank you (11/16/2025)

2865. No (11/16/2025)

2866. None (11/16/2025)

2867. Ok i understand (11/16/2025)

2868. I feel we should be able to write and receive mail from any registered and licensed Attorney.
(11/17/2025)

2869. Idoc are punishing the wrong people its the officers thats bring in yhe drugs. Now its punish the people thats in prison, thats not right. (11/17/2025)

2870. Taking away paper mail will not do what it is intended to,all its going to do is create a system to where people who work for ILDOC,to use this against us.For instance,most pictures come thru an App,our family send the photos from there phone directly to the App"FreePrints" yet the photos is being placed on my tablet,When they do not pose a threat to instutition,to me ILDOC is punishing many people for the actions of the few. (11/17/2025)

2871. They dont no wat they doing with our pics (11/17/2025)

2872. I think the mail change will really slow the mail more we dont have enough staff for regular mail this will take time sorting reading and scanning (11/17/2025)

2873. To have physical mail coorespondance from a friend or family member is priceless! I get that security procedures have to be implemented to stop the flow of dangerous contraband. However, I don't believe that everyone is having contraband sent into the correctional facilities. I don't approve of having the coorespondance destroyed after any period of time. Consider that if there is no contraband found, that the mail be stored until an individuals release date provided that the individual can't afford to send the mail to a designated address. Or..., find the means to send the mail to a designated address with the aid of the state and the United States Postal

Service. It only makes sense for those who don't abuse the mail priviledge and assist in promulgating departmental rules and regulations. Thanks for taking the time and consideration in reviewing my individual opinion in the matter. (11/17/2025)

2874. If the Director said in a memo that we could get copies of our mail ,, why won't the mailroom allow use to have copies of our personal letters? (11/17/2025)

2875. My mail wasnt scanned all theway. There are pages missing from my letter. My attorney sent me mail the week of October 27th and I still have not received it (11/17/2025)

2876. Not good not getting mail on time dont understand the process (11/17/2025)

2877. I think it will take longer to get our mail scanned than to have the actual piece of mail and the mail will be backed up in the mailroom (11/17/2025)

2878. Its not right to not get our mail (11/17/2025)

2879. It is not a good thing to not have mail from loved ones. (11/17/2025)

2880. My name is REDACTED. I just received some mail from my mother down in Georgia and it seems to be a good thing and a good way to receive mail. I dont get high so its not going to hurt me so much to not receive mail by hand. An it might save some of these people in here. Since i have been here it has been 15 people that has past on because of the drugs. So if you ask me face to face, I will say keep up the good work here in Illinois. Thank you Melvin Holland!!!! (11/17/2025)

2881. I think the rule change is GREAT !
THE PRISON POPULATION ASWELL AS COUNTLESS STAFF'S WELL BIENG HAS BEEN IN DANGER FOR FAR TO LONG BECAUSE OF THE DRUGS. WITH THE MAIL SCAN PROCESS, GOD WILLING THE ENVIROMENT WILL BECOME MORE SAFE. (11/17/2025)

2882. It stops all the drug users (11/17/2025)

2883. It is vey bad (11/17/2025)

2884. They do need to change the methods of our mail (11/17/2025)

2885. I think its stupid because its not going to stop the drug flow. (11/17/2025)

2886. I think mail is personal it shouldnt be put on a device (11/17/2025)

2887. I think it is truly smart for this new mail ordeal (11/17/2025)

2888. I think it is wrong to not give us our mail (11/17/2025)

2889. Go back to how it use to be! (11/17/2025)

2890. I think the mail is not the issue at hand. It makes sense to ignore the real issue at hand (11/17/2025)

2891. I dont have nothing to say (11/17/2025)

2892. Naw jus kidding..... Great job Illinois!!!! (11/17/2025)

2893. My thoughts on this matter are, if a individual is on "A" grade they should get physical mail. (11/18/2025)

2894. I would like the sender of my mail to be listed on my tablet. As it stands right now everything is listed as unknown. (11/18/2025)

2895. They need to give free messages on the tablet if they change our mail (11/18/2025)

2896. Terrible on the part where you can't get pic and birthday cards and stuff thats meaningful really for the ones who as life in side (11/18/2025)

2897. Better measures should be taken to improve safety without infringing upon the rights of those in custody. My personal experience involved me receiving a very important correspondence several weeks late because of new procedural steps that likely consitute a violation of privacy among other issues. (11/18/2025)

2898. I feel that scanning the mail is not going to stop drugs from coming in to prisons most drugs come in the front door, and staff knows this. (11/18/2025)

2899. Sadly the most hurtful part about the mail are the greetings that will hold emotional significance and the Obituaries. While this move is helpful in one respect it is harmful in several others. Does it save space? Yes. Does it save lives? No. Why? Because the same mail is being handled by staff daily and though individuals in custody may not possess it, staff always have found ways to bring in that which is considered contraband. If this was the intent, then it has already failed, because the human element is always present. (11/18/2025)

2900. This is NOt the real salution to contraband or drugs in the prisons. It only serves to further allow the department to control its inmates in a manner that is inconvienient. (11/18/2025)

2901. The new unexpected mail changes are a violation to our constitutional rights we must have access to all legal and paper mail. (11/18/2025)

2902. Having the mail physically plays a big part in mental stubilite beind it comes from love ones and firend i have a letter from a family member who sent it right before she pass now if i could'nt smell or read it at will i would be devistated
(11/18/2025)

2903. Its dumb, most ppl like to have their mail in hand frm family members personaly i dont like it (11/18/2025)

2904. Only problem i see is mail from clerk you cant use a copie to file any briefs (11/18/2025)

2905. This mail process is slow and they dont scan the mail completely or accurately (11/18/2025)

2906. Would be nice if i got my mail. Waiting on mail from august still (11/18/2025)

2907. How is it that with less physical mail being passed out that the physical mail (ex:magazines, books, etc) is still taking 2-3 weeks. Taking almost 4 weeks for mail to be uploaded onto our tablets. (11/18/2025)

2908. This would be a great idea if it would allow the mail to be processed and recieved sooner (11/18/2025)

2909. Bring papermail back
(11/18/2025)

2910. I think mail should be brought in the right way not by tablet (11/18/2025)

2911. I think it's a good ideal to change the mail syetem (11/18/2025)

2912. I think its an great start to stoping the flow of drugs in IDOC it will protect people in custody and staff (11/18/2025)

2913. Im happy there doing it that way now (11/18/2025)

2914. I feel it's not right to stop incoming mail due to drugs coming in on the mail (11/18/2025)

2915. None (11/18/2025)

2916. The only question i have is.why do we have to pay to send our mail home after six month,or whatever? (11/19/2025)

2917. Does the (IIC) have the choice to request copies of their letters ,photo's being printed by the mail room at No cost to IIC.? (11/19/2025)

2918. Need guidance and needs to implement ways to recieve pictures from family friends and loved ones. Names of places like free prints etc. (11/19/2025)

2919. You are making communicating with the outside world harder on us by changing up this mail system. If my family or children make me cards for special days or holidays I can't get

them, instead I get some lame photo copy of what they spent countless time making for me their loved one. But to make it worse you claim that this proceedure will make things safer for us in here. In fact it uas had the opposite effect. The OD's have multiplied at the least 4 fold, this is a fact, just look at the news from Pinckneyville from what happened this weekend. At least 8-10 people have been found unresponsive because of the drugs they smoked or injested. Yet the Warden has taken it upon himself to order staff to not call medical emergency codes or write the people up for doing this. By doing this you have placed the health and well being of the entire prison population in dire jeapordy. Other states have tried this and it has been proven to not stop the illegal drugs from coming in, when the final outcome has shown and proven that a majority of the illicit drugs come in from staff. (11/19/2025)

2920. Unless you're going to stop ALL mail, i.e. legal mail AND outsourced books and magazines, the drug problem wont be resolved. Or the DOC needs a reliable 3rd party to provide books and or magazine. And NOT an AMAZON provider who any kid with a divers lisence, could get a job working for. (11/19/2025)

2921. This is crazy that i cant get mail because of something that i dont do . (11/19/2025)

2922. Its weird and makes no sence yet barely effects me personally. Yet i still find it to be in violation of our rights. Thank you good bye. (11/19/2025)

2923. I think its a breach of our rights,which is real minimal being incarcerated!I think I.A. should do there job better by screening mail which is part of there job asignment.By just not giving us our mail is pure laziness. (11/19/2025)

2924. I feel like new mail system hasnt changed or stopped anything (11/19/2025)

2925. I think its unfair to all inmate because we're being punished for someone else mistakes.mail nd letters is the only source of connection some of have to our familys because we're far away (11/19/2025)

2926. While i understand the efforts to stop drugs coming to the facility but the truth is far beyond that.The drugs dont always come in through mail or through visiting rooms like how they are portrayed by those who want these changes which will limit the personal touch and personal connection with our loved ones.Letters and greetings cards which are very personal and we get to hold on to them and keep us going on this difficult journey we on,will be only allowed to us in copies and on our tablet which is not fair to the majority of us.Why am i getting punished?why my family and loved ones getting punished?for 17 years of my incarceration,we have never do anything or violate any rule that require this kind of punishment.Those in favor of this know the truth about this mail rule.Why dont they ask themselves about other contraband found in prisons such as cell phones.Do they also come through the mail?This is just so unfair. (11/19/2025)

2927. This new system is not benificial to the prison community. Research has already shown that the implimintation of this type of program does nothing to eliminate the drug problem and in many cases it exponitially increases it. The new system is also causing harm to the prison community in that those of us who are older and actually grew up depending on holding an

actual card or letter in our hands, smelling the paper, and saving it for sentimental value now no longer have this option because it will only be on our tablets for six months. Sure,the prison says they will print it out for us, but the printed version is no where near the same as the original. Plus, the amount of time it is taking to receive our letters on our tablet is at least a full month!! This makes it almost impossible to have a meaningful and fluid relatuionship with our loved ones. It's as though we went back to the first years of mail delivery where you depended on a horse and rider ro get the mail from the train that got it from the post office that got it from another horse and rider that fot it from the writer. This is supposed to be quicker?!! The prison says they are trying to cpeliminate drugs coming in by this method, but it is well documented that many of the drugs have come feom correctional officers and staff. So what is being drastically changed to prevent them from bringing them in? Ive seen nothing to indicate those officers and staff who follow the rules and have nothing to do with bringing in drugs are being unduly inconvienced by harsh changes to their work lives the way those of us IIC who follow the rules are being punished by this new policy. There has also been no assurance that when this new method fails to prevent drugs from coming into the prison that we will be allowed to go back to the old system. I believe this system is nothing more than another way to punish IIC and it is doomed to failure. I ask that the system be disregarded and another method be implimented to curb the flow of drugs coming in through the mail. There has to be a chemical that can be used to detect drugs on paper. (11/19/2025)

2928. Mail shouldnt be copied its taking a close part away with our love ones (11/19/2025)

2929. I Dont Like This Transition It Takes Away The Sentimental Value Of Physical Letters Handwritten By Family And Friends And You Will Only Have Access To Such Things Digitally For A Limited Time So If One Of Our Loved Ones Was To Pass Away Or Become Incapable Of Sending Letters We Just Wont Have Them Anymore Thats Not Fair As It Will Take A Toll On Many Mentally, And Some Emotionally . Not A Good Idea
(11/19/2025)

2930. My mail is being uploaded to this tablet that is not mines to keep. From my understanding we have received our mail straight from our families and friends for as long as prisons have been open and operated. For me personally as well as many other individuals I'm familiar with our mail holds sentimental value. I still have most of my mail, letters, birthday and holiday cards that I've received over the years and they mean alot to me. It brings strength and joy to be able to reference the words of our loved ones at will, some who may even no longer be with us. To take this away from us would be cruel. I understand that there are dangers and legitemate concerns but surely there are other measures that can be taken other than completely destroying and taking away hope. The words and love of my love ones are indeed hope that I hold dear and cherish to this very day. In my humble opinion to take that from us would be evil. May these words touch your hearts in the name of God. Peace and bless to all... (11/19/2025)

2931. This is regarding the proposed changes to the mail system. While I understand & agree with the reason for the changes, the process has to be more effecient. I received mail on October 22nd (10 pictures/letter), October 29th (4 seperate letters), & November 10th (letter) & have yet to receive the printed copies of those letters. I have made two requests to the mailroom for each piece of mail & was told that it would be printed as fast as the mailroom could depending on the

workload of the mailroom. To me waiting 27 days now (and counting) is way to long. My mail has been scanned at an angle, out of order, or sometimes even backwards. There needs to be a better system in place. This morning (11/19) the tablets would not let us log in for a few hours, what happens if that happens again for a longer period? The mail only stays on the tablets for 6 months, what if this does not get printed by then? I lose all my mail? Like I stated previously, a better process needs to be implemented for this to work. Thank you for giving inmates a voice in this decision. (11/19/2025)

2932. There is no reason to put on the MAIL listing - renewal bills from the publishers; information from religious organizations; any correspondence from publishers; ordering information from publishers. These items often come with information that needs to be filled, and cannot be copied on writing paper. Common sense needs to be utilized here. (11/19/2025)

2933. The legal efiles are taking longer because of the coping of mail. (11/19/2025)

2934. There is no notification of when i have postal mail. I will refresh my entire bulletin board, however new postings only show up when i refresh each and every individual section. (11/19/2025)

2935. The proposal as it is does not address the Mail Print Request process when reproducing documents. For example on October 26, 2025, I submitted a Mail Print Request for the reproduction of document #: K82958-100225-2. The October 28th response I received back from mailroom supervisor K. Simmons was as follows: "Mailroom is awaiting further direction from administration regarding print request. I have made note of your request."
The document is a several page example motion for the next stage in my civil suit. My concerns are: 1.) The document will be destroyed before I have an opportunity to make use of it; and 2.) In not having the opportunity to make use of the information, this will greatly hinder my efforts to meaningfully represent myself and count as a denial to access of the Court. In turn, this could cause IDOC to suffer monetary penalties for any of the damage incurred. (11/19/2025)

2936. The mail is horrible not scanned properly cant read it because only half of the page is scanned ! Months and months behind its ridiculous (11/19/2025)

2937. Ive already recieved someone else. Mail on my tablet in the future can you please find a way to stop this from happening (11/19/2025)

2938. Please note: Today is November 19, 2025. I have 3 different items that were mailed and one that was tracked and delivered to this facility (Illinois River) on October 10, 2025. I have not received any mail since they instituted this emergency protocol. I've heard from a reliable source that the mailroom is in chaos with dozens of boxes full of mail piled everywhere. I wrote to the mailroom and requested an update regarding my mail and their response was that mail is not tracked. They then seemingly contradicted themself and said that mail was processed in the order it was received. Please arrange for my mail to be delivered to me expeditiously. Thank you. (11/19/2025)

2939. Mail is not being processed in a timely manner. We are being told that there is no way to

get a copy of the scannef mail. Documents coming from the court are not being made available. This process should only be in effect for those that have had their mail privileges revoked. If I have no history of mail infractions, then I should be getting my mail without it being scanned. I am not receiving my religious mail for October and November. These are coming directly from the publisher and there is no reason for it to be scanned or for it to be held up. (11/19/2025)

2940. Yall petty asl for stoping mail i already miss my famliy fuck idoc (11/19/2025)

2941. Don't like it (11/19/2025)

2942. I am against mail being put on the tablets. For lots of people getting family and friends to write letters send pictures etc. is already difficult and when we hear our names called at mail time it is a stress relief and a moment of happiness that can not be described. Not all people in the free world know how to use emails and such so a simple letter is not only for us but do able for them. If there are already delays and mail backed up days and sometimes weeks i can not imagine how backed up it will b having to copy and send out mail to our tablets. I am completly against the stopping of mail. I understand safety is important but i strongly believe there is another way around it. Thank you (11/19/2025)

2943. I dont like the system its a disconnect from my family (11/19/2025)

2944. I feel like thye should keep it the same i dont see nothin wrong wit it !! (11/19/2025)

2945. Nice work guys thanks (11/19/2025)

2946. I think its a good policy just as long as there is no big delay in getting our things printed if needed. (11/19/2025)

2947. I support this, i hope idoc takes the time to crack down and fully remove mailed in drugs or k2 from the prisons. (11/19/2025)

2948. I feel it is going to slow the mail process down a bit but if it protects people its for the best (11/19/2025)

2949. i have not gotten my chanel guide subscription for nov and its like the 19 does this have to with the new mail rules. (11/20/2025)

2950. While i understand IDOC efforts trying to stop the flow of illegal drugs and other contraband coming into facilities,this proposed mail rule is not the actual answer because in reality,i am sure everyone associated with prison system know that drugs through mail is not and has not been the only way in.I have been incarcerated for 17 years now and everywhere i have been,there has been incidents of drugs and other contrabands that individuals had that common sense will tell you they came in through other means that facilities and IDOC all together hate to admit.For instance,incarcerated individuals got caught with cell phones.Now,how did those cell phones get in the facilities?its definitely not through the mail nor visiting rooms like how they like to portray to find a scapegoat.They know the truth.

Lastly,this mail rule is another scapegoat and it is unfairly punishing most of us who got nothing to do with drugs.Those who are proposing this mail rule obviously dont know what it means for us incarcerated individuals to be receiving letters and greeting cards from our family and loved ones.This is something very personal to us and it gives us that personal touch and connection with our family and loved ones.We need it and we rely on it to keep us going in our journey.It is very hard and inhumane already and noe they want to take this away too.By putting it our letters and greeting cards on tablet and receiving just a copy of it if requested still wouldnt give us that personal touch and meaning of those letters.Why my family and I has to be punished because of actions of others?they need to take this privilege away from those who are known for doing drugs and those who always get in trouble.Some of us are very clean and it is unfair to be punished.I am in favor by the way they propose about publications but not personal letters and greeting cards from our family and loved ones.
(11/20/2025)

2951. This is ridiculous its already nearly impossible to have anyone send material to read and grow for educational or entertainment purposes now this gone add further hinderance to us recieving reading material from a person. In addition to that they claiming that freeprint,pelipost and other picture publication photos gone be scanned and put on the tablet and pictures already seem to be placed or hold or not being giving to us eventhough these pictures never come from a person directly but from a app and a publication company. Overall i just think this whole process is gone isolate an alienate us even more than we already are i know IDOC can come up with a better solution then this especially when it comes to the books and pictures (11/20/2025)

2952. This is a violation of my rights. Once mail is opened and there has been no threat to safety and security to the facility, my physical mail that my friends and family have took time out there day and spent money on should be given too me. (11/20/2025)

2953. This is a praposal to patentially threaten the persanol and sentimental values or even the authenticity of the privilages afford to us throught our current standing mail polices already set in place it also forces us to place a high level of dependablility into this digital system which wont permentetly store these mail documents the we are entilted to control full ownership and possesion of as well as the high level of dependability in to a digital retival system that can be altered experience errors and glitches also potential loss of data documents and etc. also the memo states of the system used that that this mail will olny be stored for six months so if i get a birthday card or letter from my kids if the wifi goes out i cant access them and if my tablet is having problems i cant access them it ths system goes down i cant access them and after six months they're gone forever vs me having my mail in my possesion i can store it with me for safe keeping for as long as i want and i can pyshically touch and feel these things i can feel the lines were my child colored my holiday card with there markers or color pencils or whatever and look at them any time not with a curfew because the tablets dont allow access after a certain time also human error things can be misscaned and now i wouldn't even know until i maybe find out from a family member or friend and then I have to try to get that corrected and with the work ethic of these officers at my current facility the chances of that are slime so now I just dont even recive my mail properly and complete and this is a huge very possible future problem and issuse that will arise also their are many other issuses that are being over looked this is also problematic for so many other reasons like for example if i purchase a legal book or magazine I will be limited

access to something I purchased along with a curfew along with it being gone after six months so that means i have to repurchase every book or magazine etc. Every six months thats unacceptable and unreasonable and everyones financial situation dosn't afford them the capability to do so also individuals in custody in segragation are not being given access to their mail because of this violation of right not to have thier mail tamperd with which is a federal offense besisdes the countless other issues I've already addressed along with there being no wifi to even properly use and have access to a tablet to even access their mail in segragation plus the sentimental value like for example what if I get a letter from a loved one who i wont be able to pyshically touch and they pass away then in six months its gone forever that is not right and can trigger and cause stress and depression even suicide then the mail isnt being stored its being discarded so individuals being released who want to take their books or magazines or birthday cards holiday cards private letters and etc. Wont be able to do so this is something that is being overlooked as well no ones putting there self in our shoes and really guenuienly taking into consideration of how this will effect us and on how many levels this will effect on its just a one sided view just like many other things we are being deprived of that serve no ultimate benifit to IDOC as a whole but no one cares on the other side because they domt put them selfs in our shoes and humanize us we are still people who have family friends and loved ones who care about us just as much as security staff does as well as children and significant others all these things place a major role and most of all in this facility which is a mental health facility this deffenetly hasn't been taken into consideration how all of these issues mentioned will effect everyones mental health so please dont take everything I have said lightly and really take it into consideration as well as the fact which is the major point and standing factor of all of this which is regardless of these proposed changes it will in no way stop the flow of ""contraband"" into any correctional facility what so ever i mean lets just be honest so the fact that IDOC and those related/responsible think that this will stop anything is kinda obsurd no disrespect and if set in place will only harm us as individuals as a whole an then when thisnis made evident it wont be reversed because of the lack of work ethic that aleady exsist in the current system of certain employess this will just give them the leaway to use the saftey and security asna cop out as usual to not convert back to the current system set in place when in fact the same flow of ""contraband"" is still present and has not deminished (11/20/2025)

2954. This amendment is a farce. It requires state employees to handle incoming mail even MORE than before, placing them at increased risk to exposure to serious street drugs/substances like fentynal. They have shown NO imperical data or research to support the changes to the mail system that was in place, and the Illinois Supreme Court agreed. They said they (IDOC) had no supporting evidence to inact these changes, which is why IDOC had to implement an emergency amendment to 525. After the six months is up, things will go right back to normal. Just another reason this crooked, uneducated and frankly criminal state is run by a bunch of morons that is costing taxpayers millions of dollars. (11/20/2025)

2955. My bank statement was scanned on the tablet which shouldnt happen due to having my account number on it and being from a legitimate company as said credit union bank. (11/20/2025)

2956. I feel that the mail room changes effect alot of us that never tried to get contraband in through the mailroom so not allowing the ones that cherish their mail priveges is not right and

there should be a system set up that effects the ones that get caught trying to get things in and the ones that never try to get anything on should have their privedges back.thank you (11/20/2025)

2957. I dont want to lose my pictures, when the tablet quits working and needs.replqced. (11/20/2025)

2958. I dont think its fair about the mail being downloaded to the tablets
And our pictures only last 90 days (11/20/2025)

2959. Whats going on with the mail is not right.Letters,pictures,books are all we have to keep us close with our loved ones on the outside. Messing with our mail is just like messing with our sanity. Please do something about this. (11/20/2025)

2960. This mail thing is kind of a sad transaction cause some of people kids are in foster care so some people can send pictures through freeprints and we want mail from our kids (11/20/2025)

2961. This change will put some inmates in custody in a state of not knowing the feel of letters from loved ones. (11/20/2025)

2962. There is no permenance to electronic mail. I cant look at my mail whenever i want because someone else controls when and how i access anything on this tablet. Ive been incarcerated for 25 years. Most of my friends and family have passed on to the next lifr. The pieces of mail i recieved from them that i can hold in my hand are priceless, electronic mail takes away that tangible connection i have with them as i feel the impressions of their pen on the paper with my fingers, or smell their perfume on the paper and recall the memories of being with them in the past. These are things that keep us connected, and being connected to the outside and those we love is critical to our rehabilitation. (11/20/2025)

2963. Its worse then ever i miss getting laters from my kids in my hand (11/20/2025)

2964. I would rather have the mail my people write me in case I want to save it. (11/20/2025)

2965. I think it takes away the sentimental value of the mail especialy coming from your family. Birthday cards, and thing you want to keep forever. I think its the stupidist idea ever and should be changed back to before. (11/20/2025)

2966. Why does it take a month to get pictures after pictures arrive to the facility from a company like freeprints thats approved by the prison ? It doesnt make sense the pictures are tracked by freeprints and tells your family the date they arrive yet the mail room hold the pictures a whole month and sometimes longer before delivering them this should be looked into and fixed ASAP (11/20/2025)

2967. Why am i not getting any response for my mail print request. I have submitted four mail print request no respones at all. Due to the violating access to the courts through the law libraries. I was having legal documents, staties, AD's, IDOC polices and procedures mailed to

me. Now IDOC has completely obstructed my ability to file claims, grievances, and acess to the courts. IDOC is responsible for the violations, this is inconceivable and constituent services gets you no where. Internet and media will get best result (11/20/2025)

2968. We have had several issues with the new mail procedures here at Logan Correctional Center. I have received multiple pieces of mail scanned to my tablet that do not contain the full content of the mail; specifically the bottom of the cards were cut off and I could not read the message. Another issue is that individuals have received mail on their tablets that belongs to other individuals. This could be a major problem if the mail contains personal or sensitive information. Finally, the memo provided to us at the onset of the changes to the mail process indicated that we would be able to receive copies of our mail on high quality paper upon request. We are now being told we will not receive copies of our mail. I speak for myself as well as many other women in this facility when I say that mail can be very sentimental and in some cases even irreplaceable. Many of us experience loss of loved ones while incarcerated, especially those of us with more than a year or two to serve. I personally have mail from deceased loved ones that I continue to treasure, even years later. To not be able to have copies of those letters or cards would be devastating to some people, and it would be very difficult to know that those items would simply be disposed of after 6 months. I understand the need for policies to protect staff and individuals in custody from contraband, especially drugs, entering the facility. However, I believe there need to be policies in place to take into account the importance of mail in our lives and in the lives of our families and friends who take the time to correspond with us. For some of us, mail is the only form of communication used by our loved ones and there should be ways to limit the impact of the new policies on something so meaningful. Thank you for your consideration in this matter. (11/20/2025)

2969. We cant even get mail from the state are goverment.Like the IRS which is insane.Also i was trying to go to school and i cant even get the material I need to study.This policy is not right. (11/20/2025)

2970. The time waiting for the mail to get scanned and then put on the tablet takes to much time when it is a time sensitive is way to long, and mail is impersonal when you something from family and cant keep it , just a picture of it and cant take it home with you. I am happy that i stil have things my mom sent me before she died i cant imagine how mad id be if i couldnt keep it or hold the card she sent me and pictures of her, not a crappy scan of them, the quality is aweful an hard to read to respond to the mail (11/20/2025)

2971. The mail changes can be a great thing but
The timing of recieving your mail needs to
improve. (11/20/2025)

2972. I've had family members obituary sent to me but was sent back I would really like to have rhose (11/20/2025)

2973. Its takin my mail a wekk longer to get to me and not only that but i have not one but two children under the age of one and there growing and changing constantly so yes i recieve pictures but they will be getting deleted in 6 months then what am i to do when i want to reminance about

my children i cant go bavk in look because then no longer exist also my nephews and neices spend time on cards and pictures just for me not to get them or for them just to be destroyed or even being giving the option to send them back the new mail system is not a thing (11/20/2025)

2974. I think its stupid 90% of the time our people send us pictures or mail at all the prisons wont let up get it till 2-5 months later and with tablets its even longer why change what is working to something the idoc system wont honor (11/20/2025)

2975. The department of corrections is violating federal law by restricting access to federally bonded mail. Postage is paid for delivery that is NOT being delivered in a reasonable manner. Further, the notice IDOC proferred in relation to printing mail items for hardcopy delivery was and is a fabercation. I have requested hardcopy print of my mail & photos since implementation of the scanning and have not received any prints or responses. Further, IDOC is being dictated by IDOC staff and unions security measures via scanning and costs while negating constitutional rights related to due process in access to reunification with family by not holding staff accountable to scan and deliver mail timely to our tablets and provide hardcopy prints of requested mail items scanned. Since the implementation of scanning. Ive had five items scanned. And no prints copies and sent to me. No one in dixon correctional center has had hardcopy mail sent to them via prints as promised by idoc. These proceudres are puntive and dictated by unions without justification related to drugs being infiltrated through the mail. Nor is there any proof that such punitive and restrictive measures will stop or hinder drugs from infiltrating the premises of idoc. Officers doing their jobs is what needs to be held to account. They were constantly complaining about passing out mail that was volumous and tedious to them. Not one example has been published in idoc of any staff coming into harm via u.s. mail . idoc through there unions create false unsubstantiated claims of threat to elliminate mail access to the prison population to subdue reunification with family and friends like they have done with keeping covid protocols activated in our in person visits with family. Unless the inmate population has an arbitrator to mediate whats true and whats not true in this process. The legislature will only have one perspective to listen too related to this scanning of mail issue. Unions for idoc staff and officers who employ tactics to violate due process. Keep taking from those in custody who have never particpated in drugs or drug activity and idoc sends the message that false premises dictated by unions and correctional staff while violating the constitution of illinois and the u.s. constitution are the new punitive status quo for our legislature and its legislative body of this state. You wont read this nor employ protections against such measures that punish we who are not involved in drugs so, Iv wasted my time in measure im sure. God bless. (11/20/2025)

2976. Well its kinda of a toss up. Theres nothing like original mail. (11/20/2025)

2977. The mail should not be digital. Most of the staff whi claim to have been exposed to drugs have not tested positive for any drugs. This is another ploy to further oppress us, to create more division between us and our loved ones, and to commodify communication. (11/20/2025)

2978. Mail should continue as it is! (11/20/2025)

2979. Keep mail the way it is (11/20/2025)

2980. I think it is stupid (11/20/2025)

2981. I dont like the way yall are doing mail
(11/20/2025)

2982. Don,t like it (11/20/2025)

2983. Dumb. (11/20/2025)

2984. I think its good for the joint (11/20/2025)

2985. Yes (11/20/2025)

2986. No (11/20/2025)

2987. Lets go!!!!! (11/20/2025)

2988. (1)What do you define as non-privileged mail? (2)If i do not request for photographs to be reproduced by being printed on quality paper(Mail Printed Request) and have filed a greivance in which blocks the mail to its returned address to prevent the destruction of inmate property what do i expect to happen? (11/21/2025)

2989. What do you define as non-privileged mail? (11/21/2025)

2990. How do inmates receive incoming pictures and greeting cards. (11/21/2025)

2991. Let us print mail or get it physical (11/21/2025)

2992. Have all the rules downloadable so we can all access all the rules per our facilities guidelines so it is not up to interpretation (11/21/2025)

2993. Changing the system to posting our mail on the tablets would not do any good.Especially when it is the staff that is the cause of 90% of the drugs,phones,contraband in the prisons.As long as you have staff that's money hungry it will be problems.I even heard staff talking about the union made a deal here at menard to stop the random drug test cause to many staff are getting fired for dirty drug testing.WHY PUNISH/HARRASS THE INDIVIDULS IN CUSTDY!! (11/21/2025)

2994. Not effective (11/21/2025)

2995. You know as well as any one else know the drugs are not coming in my mail . Missouri had a 23 man federal indictment of fyntonol case by the way of there correctional officer's bring in drugs for inmates who were paying them too.. you think this is gonna stop because you stopped the mail. You are dead wrong you need to look at your staff instead of blaming the public/ families. And stop covering it up (11/21/2025)

2996. We should be allowed to still get our pictures from our loved ones and we need to be able to receive all educational programs. (11/21/2025)

2997. Well i think its unfair to some inmates that have to deal with the fact we cant get planners,magazines especially pictures in mail. We have to suffer do to the stupidness because of some inmates but hopefully it gets back to normal so we can get things that we look forward to. Also obituarys of our love ones thats something special also. Thanks & hopefully it gets back to normal soon (11/21/2025)

2998. Voilation of our due process of rights (11/21/2025)

2999. We arw already limitted to only certain publishing ans materials as it is (11/21/2025)

3000. My comment on the incoming mail is unfair to the individuals in custody who are wanting to recieve there mail by hand instead of recieving there mail directly to there tablet some individuals incustody who get bad mail in this facility mess it up for others who want to get there mail by hand i just think its unfair to others individuals who do the right thing during there incarceration (11/21/2025)

3001. Its not fair to those of us that do not misuse our privelage and our right to receive letters and magizens and books from our familys and loveonds and to be able to keep them in our posession to enjoy at our leasure. I cant aford a subscription to publacations that my family and friends already have so that keeps me from being in touch with whats going on in the world and i will be that much farther removed from socity when i am releaced. (11/21/2025)

3002. I feel it takes away from the Family Value from our loved ones/friends (11/21/2025)

3003. I feel like its taking away from the little things we do get and the little support we do get (11/21/2025)

3004. Ive done almost 30 years of incarceration. During that time Ive recieved many letters, cards, and written correspondance. Getting original physical mail encoraged me to develope postive behavoir and pursue a postive lifestyle. Now that we are recieving digital mail its a big difference. Seems like its less personal,robotic, and lacks a human touch. I believe there is a better solution to the problem that Idoc is experiencing other than scanning the mail. No evidence has been shown through other states that using scanning mail eliminates substances coming into prison. But there is evidence that the problem has only increased. This should show that there should be more emphasis on promoting education, programming, and survailance on staff. (11/21/2025)

3005. It was nice to be able to read thoughtful written letters from our loved ones in a tangible way. But now that they took it away we have a time limit on our loved ones letters before they go away and that is way too restrictive. It is like punishment. Not everyone in Prison should have to suffer because of other people not following rules an sneaking drugs through mail. Not everyone is going against authority. Some people are trying to actually make a change and it helps to have tangible letters from our people to motivate us to be better and make a change for

them when we can feel and see in person a tangible letter that never goes away. (11/21/2025)

3006. Why does it take so long to get your mail on the tablet i have been waiting for over 2\weeks (11/21/2025)

3007. This is not working. They arent answering request slips to get things printed, even when it is time sensitive. These changes are depriving us of our rights to correspondence. (11/21/2025)

3008. This whole mail thing is bullshit they cut half of our mail off when its scanned and then i been waitin almost 2 months for a printed copy of my mail and its still takin almost a month delay before they even post our mail on the tablet from the time it was recieved by the facility (11/21/2025)

3009. They didnt even give me my whole letter, (11/21/2025)

3010. Many, even most, of the ideas proposed all sound & appear wonderful on paper. Yet, what we're learning at a very rapid pace is that the IDOC staff are completely free to do as they please & there simply is no oversight. Mail will get processed & scanned if/when the staff decides to come to work. Fact of the matter is here at the lowest levels of all your policy decisions is that the correctional staff's union is the one who dictates the real policy. And all of IDOC is turning a blind eye to the massive destruction its causing in people's lives. Why is the recidivism rate so high? Because, with the exception of these tablets, the mantra of IDOC is "Take, Take, Take". There is no purpose to divine inspiration from. We are simply being warehoused in concrete boxes while the IDOC staff fleeces the state out of as much overtime pay as they can ghost payroll into. The consequences are severely increased drug usage & emotional escapism. So the proposed answer is to take away family pictures & letters? I can never again hold a letter or card from my daughter or mother because these mindless, unguided kids are finding their only escape in some paper drug? When are you guys going to learn people need purpose, not more suffocation.(?) All you're doing in IDOC is creating more monsters in these kids who you parole again & again & again, each one returning to prison for a slightly more serious offense than the time before. Prison is designed to be hard, yes. Discipline with structure, or at least some sense of purpose. You guys provide nothing of this, at any level, beyond what one takes upon themselves in trying to learn something more from within this tablet. Except now I have no means of building anything because I cannot retrieve any incoming mail in which to establish myself. Even this survey is just for show. You guys don't hear what the real needs are. You want solutions? Empower us with purpose. Everything else will fall in place. Just curious: How bad is the drug problem at Kewanee? Wasn't that facility designed to be a model for what prisons' can be? Empowerment. Most of us are going to be members of the surrounding community one day. Helping us be a benefit there begins here. (11/21/2025)

3011. I find this to be a completly awful rule change. Im new to the prison system. This is my first time in prison an hopefully my last but while here i want to be able to gey cards from my kids, my parents, my grandmother, and siblings. My sister has books she wants tosend me rather than having to buy the set again. The set is game of thrones, having to buy this set to send it to me will be insanely expensive versus it being sent from books we already have. It already takes an INSANE AMOUNT OF TIME to get mail in here. 3 weeks from arrival at facility to recieve

the mail and thats a low estimate. If there are things being snuck in thru the mail then improve your screening process or how you test items. You are making it more and more expensive to be here. Also if this is going to indeed be a permanent implement when someone has photos or a letter or card sent and you send them the scanned image on tablet DO NOT HAVE AN EXPIRATION DATE ON IT. I want my pictures forever not just 30 days that is completely rediculous. You are deleting pictures some people can neverget back memories that can never be made again. Also concerning magic cards. Singles (single cards) coming from the vendors should be allowed as long as its from a trusted vendor. Also i have cards ive collected for years i want sent in. These magic cards and playing Magic keeps me out of trouble it brings people together of all races and backrounds peacefully and creates a better atmosphere for both individuals in custody and Corrections Officers so they dont have as many fights and dont have as many poblems with individuals in custody. In conclusion i believe that IDOC could implement much better ways of scanning mail rather than punishing everyone and not giving them their mail. Especially when most people have nothing to do with any smuggling in contraband, drugs ect. Thank you for your time. (11/21/2025)

3012. IDOC IS LYING TO THE PUBLIC ON ITS WEBSITES WE ARE NOT RECIEVING MAIL ON OUR TABLETS IN FACT ALL MY MAIL HAS BEEN SENT BACK TO MY FAMILY AND ONLY ONCE HAVE GOT A MAIL RETURN SLIP THEY SENT MAIL BACK TO MY FAMILY SAYING IT WAS WET HOW COULD MY FAMILY WET MAIL AND IT STILL BE WET A WEEK LATER WHEN ITS MAKE IT HERE DRUGS ARE STILL A MAJOR ISSUES STOPPING MAIL SHOULD ELIMINATE MAIL ROOM STAFF FROM GETTING PAID FOR NOT DOING ANY WORK (11/21/2025)

3013. How about actually printing off the document that i need from the secretary of states office that ive been asking for over a month now (11/21/2025)

3014. I been tryna get copys of my irs mail they asking me for copy i written the mal room nobody respond its time sensitive mail. (11/21/2025)

3015. Got my first letters through the sytem and its not good because one letter did not get scanned fully. That takes away from what information i was to receive from my child (11/21/2025)

3016. Garbage: This process is slow. We still have not been provided with the form that we need to have hard copies made. (11/21/2025)

3017. It is too slow of a process i have an 86 yr old aunt who writes cause she cant hear on phone i cant respond quick enough any more she gets worried (11/21/2025)

3018. The way they put it on the tablet you dont know what is the first part of your letter and so on its hard to read them and understand the letters i know by experance from my letters i can not understand them at all. (11/21/2025)

3019. Are mail should be givin to us (11/21/2025)

3020. Exposing the IDOC mail scanning scam in Menard. in one such incident in Menard in September 2024 Me staff allegedly start exhibiting symptoms from opening mail. But this staff was not drug tested or had blood taken to see what they had came in contact with Menard staff or lazy and or good at making up lies and covering up their tracks by assiting each other. On 9/9/2024 all week we was put on excessive lockdowns search team tearing up individual cells like myself. The Data shows no results just correctional officer faking. Menard staff use Nark II field test so notoriously inaccurated many states have ask the DOC to stop using them. Menard staff is not right and need to be investigated by the F.B.I. Mail scanning is wrong and is malicious use of power. (11/21/2025)

3021. Give our mail back wtf (11/21/2025)

3022. It was a great idea to keep the facility safe (11/21/2025)

3023. Forward thinking (11/21/2025)

3024. No problem with the proposal (11/21/2025)

3025. Theres nothing wrong with the mail was ran the quesrion should be why the COs bringing the drugs. (11/21/2025)

3026. Stupid. People gonna always find a way. Theres already a new drug responsible for a death in sheridan on 25 c wing (11/21/2025)

3027. Our pictures come from apps such as Free Print and should be allowed. Since its impossible for drugs or other things to be mailed along with such items. Other than that, i agree (11/21/2025)

3028. Its stupid should have kept regular paper mail (11/21/2025)

3029. I think it grate (11/21/2025)

3030. I have no opinion either way (11/21/2025)

3031. I aporeciate alk that you all are doing for us. (11/21/2025)

3032. Good job with the tablets,k2 comes thru the mail they smoke it.real real dangerous.please can you put me in for the good time thank you. (11/21/2025)

3033. None (11/21/2025)

3034. Nothing (11/21/2025)

3035. Ok (11/21/2025)

3036. Ok (11/21/2025)

3037. This is not makeing America Great Again! (11/21/2025)

3038. This place is so sad everthing in here (11/21/2025)

3039. They should not not be able to do yhat to me at all
(11/21/2025)

3040. I am not in the right state of mind to make a concise statment. I had a death in the universe and can not speak to this right now. (11/21/2025)

3041. When is the print requested of our mail going to be available? (11/22/2025)

3042. Have IDOC pay for " Text Behind Bars " at P.O. Box 189, Pnhoenix, MD 21131 to handle "all" non-publisher mail AS THE STATE OF WISCONSIN HAS BEEN EFFECTIVELY DOING SINCE THE ONSET OF COVID; PROBLEM FREE. As presently your mailroom employee's continue wrongfully:
A. Placing Attorney Client (post office returned to sender) privileged-LEGAL mail onto this PUBLIC electronic tablet; and B. Instructing our socialeconomically poor indigent family, that they "must pay" a photo copying service to copy and mail any physical photos. Photo's intended for prisoner to recieve in hand/tangible, ie. Sentimental. (11/22/2025)

3043. I would like the ARDC added to the legal mail list. (11/22/2025)

3044. I hope the mail process will.be enhanced in the futur to allow us copies of our mail. (11/22/2025)

3045. I do not like the fact that once the incoming mail and pictures are scaned, we are no longer able to mail them items back to our family, and or friends!!! I believe that we should be given the opportunity to be able to mail everything back out at our expense after the original copies have been scaned!!! (11/22/2025)

3046. This change doesn't seem to be effective (11/22/2025)

3047. This seems illegal on the federal level and i have personally experienced selective indifference with who they will still give mail to and ho they wont this change was ment to happen in Nov. Mine however started heppening as soon as Sept. 5 and i have the proof of post dates on my scanned mail to prove it. (11/22/2025)

3048. What will happen to my photos the memo said i can have them printed out at no charge and i havent recieved my photos its been since the end of september and why cant wr send them back home after they are put on the tablet? (11/22/2025)

3049. There are older individuals that are incarcerated that do not know how to or cannot understand how to use the tablets for mail or anything else. Also they cannot see, remember or undersrand how to navigate this. (11/22/2025)

3050. It a great thing but the down side is that our private information is been seen by others like bank statement, also if you get a subcretion how are you supose to fill it. To get something print is going to be a long proccess. (11/22/2025)

3051. There are people here without tablets who have sent them out due yo either hardware or software issues. They have been told that it would take a minimum of six months to get it back. That keeps them from not only being able to access their mail but also ever even knowing they had it because they do not hold onto the mail and keep it on the tablet for that long. That boils it down to one very specific thing, that because of their inability to get their mail the prisons are perpetrating the federal offense of mail tampering and theft. The whole reason for these tablets was to increase communications not commit crimes by making it impossible to receive mail and lessen your ability to talk to the outside. This needs to be addressed immediately, because of this lawsuits will be coming agianst both the prison and I. C. Solutions, it has alredy been in talks by inmates. (11/22/2025)

3052. The pictures should be delievered as original instead of on tablets because them pictures hold value plus the tablet only hold mail for 180 days (11/22/2025)

3053. It's horrible to take away a right,mail is not a privledge. Consequences is supposed to effect those who break the rules and laws. Not the individuals who decide to abide by the.
I stop taking part in the learning process on Edovo because I lost interest because it wouldn't even go to me continuing my education in this facility after applying myself during the time I was sitting in the cell not learning anything. Even without earning school goodtime I would have like to at least take the tabe test to not be labled manditory school.
(11/22/2025)

3054. I think people should still get mail coming through because at the end of the day people are still able to get drugs and other stuff in. So its not just through the mail, but also through the prison with the help of the employee. (11/22/2025)

3055. I'm not oppossed to stopping contraband from coming into the insritution, but in the process you have disregarded our feelings and mental intimancy, like with pictures and abituaries, these thing are more to us than pictures, they are a conection to a family we can't be around, but you want to erase those conections after 6 months, that's not only cruel it feels like i'm being punished for something that has nothing to do with me. I don't do drugs or condone their use, so why am i being punished for the act of others? I would like for you to explain where do uou fo eith my pictures that are sent from home after you make the copy for the tablet, toss them? That isn't right, those are things that my loved ones have held in their hands, it's like tossing a touch from a loved one. Thank you for alowing me to stress my thoughts on this issue. (11/22/2025)

3056. I feel that this is ecasive at our fundamental rights in which the first amendment of the u.s constitution has set provision for. It further simply cannot stand due to mail procedures already take excessive amounts of time to convene in ah broken system whom is demonstrably under staffed under trained and it further violates the sanctity of the intimacy involved in pin and paper

as well as the privacy of documents of outside loved ones. Half of these c/o's are misfits and have ASPD anti social personality disorders or ptsd from x military and many are socio-paths with various untreated illnesses n arent to be trusted. Shown by the millions of lawsuites filed yearly in our nation n the many killings and slayings all throughout our nation unjustly which go unreported. It is a further way to suffocate us deprieve us of more rights and a way to toy n play with our mail which is done anyway but now its even more harder to prove. This is a horrible thing and an act which further is dehumanizing n sifting us further from normalcy and life as an american. Then we return to society more thorough monsters and u wonder why recidivism n crime still is higher these days than ever before T.H.U.G (the hate u gave us) (11/22/2025)

3057. I dont think they should do this because what if we having a long day and we want too read what our family members wrote us but its been 6months have passed so the letter is deleted thats not cool we already away from our family for one reason or another now you putting time limits on how long we can read what our love ones wrote us this should not be approved. (11/22/2025)

3058. I don't like this new rule at all. It has been proven in other states that the mail wasn't the whole issue, and that the c/o's were part of the problem. I also have just heard some of the problems we are having where I am at. The issues are that the person we write to get our pictures printed off the tablet has been refusing to do so because the request slip we use isn't the right on. Also, this same person has been saying that this isn't their job , and has been trying to pass it off as others jobs or even tries to say that it is the heads of ILDOC in springfields job. (11/22/2025)

3059. Dont think that mail should be on a kiosk so no i dont support changing the mailing system an i beleibe its unconstituinal (11/22/2025)

3060. Giv us real mail again (11/22/2025)

3061. Hate it love to receice phyical mail. (11/22/2025)

3062. Since they stopped physical mail from love one due to drugs coming in I hear that n live around these types of happening n yes I hate it n were all suffering because of it n what I really want to say I prefer to hold n even smell my mail knowing my wife,kids, family n friends sent it, it gives great joy n honestly if u were in my shoes u would know what it feels like n would feel some type of way n in all honesty I just wished that physical mail would have been left alone. (11/22/2025)

3063. Its sentamental on how this mail is being sent it like we never get and like do we just lose that mail i want to take my mail home that my family and friend sent me (11/22/2025)

3064. Its important to have a physical copy of your mail/ pictures because prisoners tend to go back to read or look, at the mail for whatever reason, putting it on the tablet is a bad idea because it automatic erase in 6 months. (11/22/2025)

3065. I think its cool, my only objection is that the new system takes the excitement out of actually receiving a greeting card from a loved one versus having it uploaded onto the tablet.

(11/22/2025)

3066. I would like my cards and pictures in hand. I feel closer to my family that way. I like to have my pictures in my photo albums to look at all day. I like to have my cards to put up on my desk. The scanning doesnt capture the whole thing. (11/22/2025)

3067. I have elderly family members who will probably be passing in the next couple of years. The letters & the cards they send me are all I have of them. When they die I will not be able to attend the funeral. i will not have the opportunity to mourn with my family. I will not have the chance to properly grieve. If the mail is put on this tablet, which does not belong to me, & then destroyed without me ever getting it, I will lose the only thing that they could leave to me. The Illinois Department of Corrections claims to want to assist individuals who are incarcerated with building community & familial ties that will help.in rehabilitation & reduce recidivism. If that is the case, please do not go forward with this idea of removing one of the only things that makes me feel like I am still a part of my family while going through the process of lossing the people that I've known my whole life. This proposal does not sound like the mission statement to me. Thank you for hearing me out & considering the perspective of someone who has been in the care of IDOC for 26 years, with 10 to go. (11/22/2025)

3068. I feel like mail is a very sentimentally valued aspect in the physical relationship to the outside world . to have an actual hand written letter addressed to you , gives us as individuals a feeling that only that piece of mail could give you. Its not the same as getting it on the tablet because you do not get to touch the actual piece of paper that your loved one may have kissed , cried on , or actually held in their hands , it is a totally different feeling when you get the actual piece of mail in your hands... (11/22/2025)

3069. I dont like it. Its not personal like the way it is when you hold a letter and pics. I want to feel the love put into the writing of the letter (11/22/2025)

3070. I dont like how they put the mail on the tablets some like to have paper mail to look back on what if something happen to our tablet,some might wanna take they mail home and cant becsuse they dedcided to put it on the tablet (11/22/2025)

3071. I believe the new system/law goes against the mission of IDOC... Family, Community, Support is Important for mental health and to stay connected to Loved ones we left behind...Mail is already notoriously slow in ALL IDOC FACILITIES.. This will only make it slower.. thus hindering communications..,Also with this "Scan" process allows for more human error.... I think mail /hand written letters and notes are sacred also this form of communication is one of the oldest forms of bonding... Speed up the process dont slow it down..Please and Thankyou (11/22/2025)

3072. Just to point out the lie... They ARE NOT AND WILL NOT PRINT OUT OUR MAIL... (11/22/2025)

3073. They are throwing away pictures my family has sent from when i was a little kid with my grandmother that passed away. Pictures i can never get back ...

They are opening our legal mail
This new mail system is worse they are violating rights and postal laws.
Now we dont even have a law library ... (11/22/2025)

3074. It sucks! I miss my physical mail & photo's. Menard still has not provided us with the forms to be able to get a paper copy of either. (11/22/2025)

3075. I hate the way the mail is being handle staff does not upload mail to tablet fast enough mail is not being prioritized period (11/22/2025)

3076. The mail is being delayed out going and incoming,its taken almost 2months to receive our love ones in family and legal mail, its hendering people here do to the lackness of the idoc rule in post, on top of doing hard time.this has to change its hurtin our system badly. (11/22/2025)

3077. The changes that took place regarding mail for the robinson facility began september 30th 2025 per wardens memo since then it has become problematic an inconsistant in regards to how the mail is handled items are not being scanned properly, the mail room is is not folloing policy when it comes to reviewing mail, an rejecting almost all items of mail that are loose leefed copied material stating always that its altered publication/or unauthorized publication also some responses to requests asking why it is a problem for us to recieve printed material are almost the same (per IDOC policy we are not allowed to recive printed material from family or friends only by publisher/vendor, yet it is still a problem. They are not following IDOC policy but their own way of doing thimgs an that is to discourage all inmates here at Robinson correctional facility from having their family/friends from sending mail so in my veiw they have to do even less work then what they were doing before the new policy came out. All we want is consistency with the folowing of IDOC rules/policies/procedures to be followed, not to be determined by their own vews and opinions. Thank You (11/22/2025)

3078. Since the implementation of digital mail, i have requested multiple pieces of poorly scanned or mis-scanned mail for print out. I have yet to get a single one printed or delivered to me. 80% of all scanned mail i have received is cut off or poorly scanned. I have asked multiple inmates and as far as i can tell Danville c.c. hasnt provided anyone with print outs of mail, even when properly requested using idoc inmate request forms. I have filed two grievances on the mail room/service and both are being ignored by the counselor/grievance officer.
The mail room is disregarding the policies outlined in the idoc memo allowing religous mail. Bulletins by a verifiable organization are not being let through. Once again, after inquiring amongst the population at least one other person in custody is being denied mail from his home church.
The idea that idoc employees, who are not held responsible for not following regulations would for some reason do the job to a standard befitting the responsibility is ludicrous. There is no accountabilty for a sloppily done job or for outright ignoring policy.
The amount of drug use has not noticibly declined. All this new mail scan policy has achieved is to seperate people in custody from a tactile ability to hold mail from loved ones. (11/22/2025)

3079. Our tablets has a PHOTO GALLERY, and the capability to have all photographs mailed

to us directly from our friends & families, via computers. Other Prisons have implemented this program, and has been sucessful. All photos may b reviewed by staff, shoukd the need arise, but for the most part this removes the staff feom having to dedicate wasteful time reviewing the physical photographs, or their delivery to those in custody. If it all goes to a computer, a single click can return the photos, if needed, or simply rwmove the offending singular photograh. This will also reduce the problem of excess property and potential damages to sentimental irreplaceable photgraphs (it' happened to me). Thank You. (11/22/2025)

3080. My comments adhere strictly to processing of photos. Ive not seen where i can access option to print photos. My family paid to have these printed and shipped and it doesnt seem as if i can have tangible copies. Nor is there an option to upload photos to the corrlinks app in attempt to save the money for printing and postage
(11/22/2025)

3081. Its been ten business days since i informed the mailroom that portions of my letter are missing and they still have not fixed it nor sent me copies like I requested. (11/22/2025)

3082. It's already proven not to work, I received mail from the Social Security Office and it was put on the tablet as unknown, so it does not work like you said it was going be. People who got mail on a daily basis stopped getting mail, are they throwing it away? When you send for a copy of the mail it is cut in half, though only copy half of it! Be serious, x-ray machine is being used at Centralia before and after visits and the visiting room is covered with caneras that record, nothing is coming in on the visits! The mail is checked close, invest in equipment that checks mail closer for substances on the paper and pictures. All you are doing is making it where this administration drug ring has full control over the sales, you are going to make them (super rich)! I don't want the stuff around either! There is no punishment being used when they get caught, they just put them back in the same cell after being turned loose by the health care, right away they start smoking again. The tickets should be for dangerous safety and health hazard-creating great bodily harm to others! Send them to Danville CC where they will take audio visual for 6 months and make them wear a jumpsuit instead of blues while still in population, also take Gym for that period of time! Danville does it, it' s legal! Make them where they dont want to do it anymore, they have made this a party prison! They are bringing in the stuff to smoke and they have drag queens real deep for entertainment. Mental Health sets it up for these drag queens to get who they want for a celly or give them a single cell and there are big sex parties in there. Mental Health will feed drugs to them too, just tell them you cant sleep, hearing voices ect... These drag queens are wearing Id's that identify them as females, when we are getting shaken down they walk through the shake downs with the contraband. Centralia was suppose to be the best of the best where you have to right to get extra privliges, better commissary ect... It's a wild party prison and staff are getting rich off of it!!! (11/22/2025)

3083. I have put in one request a week in the last two weeks for a print-out copy of my letter from my Wife and have not recieved the print-out copy here we are the third week and still no print-out copy of requested letters (11/22/2025)

3084. I have no dispute with the idea or process of scannin mail to prevent drug trafficking. However the issue arises with receiving requested photo copies of that mail within an adequate

timeframe. Many incarcerate individuals have family sending legal forms, affadavits, and legal research not available any other way. Some of the legal forms are imperative for ongoing cases, Post convictions, Direct appeals, or circuit court matters. (11/22/2025)

3085. I disapprove of the new proposed changes of how individuals in custody mail is now handle, thus i state the following:
1.) The mail is now extremely back up to the point of none existing.
2.) Its hard to follow the reading of whatever mail you do receive on the tablet.
3.) Simply having the mail on the tablet removes the connection between you and your love ones which leaves an indelible scar on the heart.
4.) What happens to our origonal mail after its been processed?
5.) How do we retrieve those memories of love ones if their no longer here, and we're now home with an opportunity to reflect on the memories of love ones through letters amd pictures if we no longer have them?
6.) Did you people ever think this through, the pain it can cause an individual in costudy that goes home and now can't retrieve this information. Or better yet, somehow lose this information due to a data preach?
7.) Theres absolutely too many loop holes within this new proposed change that will open the administration up for a class action law suit.
8.) Not to mention that you (IDOC) has already placed several mail on the wrong inmate tablet (without no way whatsoever to remove that infomation that was placed on the wrong tablet) which has the individual in costudy family address on it. (WOW)! (11/22/2025)

3086. I do not like the fact that my loved ones take time out of their day to write me and pay to print pics off and send to me and i dont get the orginal and that they get thrown away after 6 months. I have even wrote my mail room to get copies of my letters and pics and have not got anything not one copy or even a reply. How about stop wasting my tax money and their tax money on this plan that you think your going to stop drugs from entering the prisons cuz its not..... (11/22/2025)

3087. For me personally they have not been actually coping my full letter as it came through the mail onto the tablet postal mail portal. For instance it cuts off a page or two that was written in i cannot see what the rest of the letter said. I have written to the mailroom in regards to this issue as well as getting the printed version of my letters following the guide-lines in have yet to recieve them... (11/22/2025)

3088. This process just makes it harder on everyone, staff included. (11/22/2025)

3089. This thing about taken copies of our mail is wrong., some of us aint even getting copies of mail before the tablet copy. I think thatnshouldnt be put the mail on tablet. I think either give us copies on paper or tablet not both. (11/22/2025)

3090. Well, I Am In Favor Of That Because I Belive It's For The Safety, And Security Of Everybody. Good Thing!! (11/22/2025)

3091. The idoc staff. Is not trying to take care of issues they love to make them (11/22/2025)

3092. I think they should go back to givin mail out (11/22/2025)

3093. I like this right here (11/22/2025)

3094. I think it is a good idea. In many ways it has its disadvantages and cons but the pros outweigh the cons. It keeps the individuals in custody from themselves and others. (11/22/2025)

3095. I dont really got a comments about mail i understand the reason for it (11/22/2025)

3096. Plane,and simple IDOC.It's just another,huge step.In
Totall,anniliation of our privlages as prisoners.Whose,being persecuted for being locked
Up,for no reason at all.At the sametime,destroying
The main line of the inmate's communication to
His or Her's familys' member.
We're the only state,on our beloved country.Whose
Not ordered.To go by these,new protcols,within
Our crocked,judicial sysyem.Thank,you for your time
And effort.In displaying,my message in the bottle,
From Danville,.C.C. (11/22/2025)

3097. Its not fair but its a solution to address the mail problem (11/22/2025)

3098. I have no real problem because I don't deal with all that much mail in my life. (11/22/2025)

3099. i think theres too much changes and admendments happening too much in IL DOC. THEY should leave things how they r most times. ""if it aint broke dont fix it."" (11/22/2025)

3100. I have been incarcerated for nine plus years and have seen some genius smuggling that has taken place through the U.S mail in prison. I have seen over doses, extortion, waisted investigation time on these issues that harm our environment prison. So I welcome the changes that are being put in place for our safety and the faculty at the Illinois State Prisons. Now I must say that the change wont stop the rogue correctional officers that supply meth,cocaine, herion, tobacco,jewelry,food,money and other immediate items that can and does come through the front gates everyday on three different shifs. I think the state police needs to shake down the cars in the parking lots with drug dogs they maybe surprised one day with what they find. (11/22/2025)

3101. I believe the changes to the mail is ridiculous and is not going to stop anything. The only thing that will come out of this is more work for staff and making us wait longer for mail. (11/22/2025)

3102. Cool stuff (11/22/2025)

3103. hell no. (11/22/2025)

3104. N/A (11/22/2025)

3105. whatever (11/22/2025)

3106. Must be because of all of the paper drugs coming into correctional facilities everywhere (11/22/2025)

3107. The copy is not clear. Also part of my letter is cut off so i can not see the last few lines of the letter that was sent to me . Does this new mail download mail received from overseas? (11/22/2025)

3108. I think the change is unneeded. It will just hamper an already slow process. There have already been problems of mail not being thoroughly scanned or only partialy scanned. This happens with cards especially. The front and back being scanned, but not the interior, arguably the most important part. Also there is the emotional aspect of holding a loved one's thoughts and wishes in your hands. Also, the need for electronic devices adds the specter of device failure. What happens if the scanner goes down? Or the prisoners' tablets? And the prisoner can't take correspondence with them when they leave if it's electronic.
In conclusion, as the adage goes: " If it ain't broke, don't fix it!"
Thank you.
P.S. Prisoners are getting drugs all kinds of ways, including using prison supplied cleaning and vermin killing agents. Not to mention crooked guards. (11/4/2025)

3109. I think the changes to the mail system is lame as fuck whats the point of people sending mail, books, or cards in if you cant even get them its bad enough they find any reason to say somethings wrong thats not just so we cant get them (11/4/2025)

3110. I think the department should of done this mail rule procedure a long time ago. But now this new rule will help keep the drug K2 from getting into prisons. (11/4/2025)

3111. I think the I.D.O.C should not change the mail system what about the correctional staff/ bad apples, that chooses to use the mail system change as leverage against an inmate he or she do not approve of. (11/4/2025)

3112. I think the mail change is a great way to keep contraban out of prisons. However for the people that arent doing those drugs or whatever it sucks. The people that just want to do there time and get home to there familys are getting punished due to others. It would be nice if there was a way to get the physical pictures that are sent in. Like if our familys sent in pictures through apps or websites like freeprints, inmatepix or pellipost. It would be nice if we could get books,magazines from places like amazon. Our familys could order it and have it sent straight to the facility, that way it was never touched by anyone but the distrubitor. (11/4/2025)

3113. I think the mail change makes it more complicated for indivisuals in custody and there family to provide books and reading materials and i also think we should be able to recieve our pictures in regual form at the least because i feel that is a intimate monment we experience from our loved ones whe we can phyically view and recieve pictures from our love ones (11/4/2025)

3114. I think the mail coming to the tablet is good but people are stell smoking and getting high so it dont matter it wont stop (11/4/2025)

3115. I think the new mail thing is cool and all but we shouldnt have to pay to send it back or have it destroyed some people cant afford it and i personally am one of those people who live on state pay and am lucky enough to have books ordered from amazon one time and i cant have them and i cant afford to send them back so my family paid money for something i cant have and will get thrown away the money i get from state pay is barely enough to get hygiene items and supplies for programs let alone send something home (11/4/2025)

3116. I think the proposed mail changes are horrible and unconstitutional. There are so many guys in this prison who dont even have a tablet due to the tablet malfunctioning on its own and being sent out for repairs. Like a guy name Willie Hampton k68015. He has not had a tablet for about 4 months. His fiance has sent him mail from the court, and the mailroom in this prison does not have a way to copy it for him, so they're acting as if the mail has not arrived. This is lunacy! We are being denied our rights to correspond with our family and friends... (11/4/2025)

3117. I think the proposed rule changes are a good idea. I do believe coorspondence to other inmates shall not be limitied to "rap partners" or immediate family only as sometimes are closest friends and sole support system are incarcerated as well. If it doesn't raise security concerns or violate the safety of the individual, staff, or free community I think coorspondence should be allowed. (11/4/2025)

3118. I think the rule to change paper mail isn't fair because what if i get a letter from someone that pass away and now you putting a time line of how long i can have it then also you aren't allowing to keep the real copy ? I understand their are other stuff happening threw out the mail but it's life regardless of what you do but controlling the mail and handling the way they're tryna to isn't call for . it start tension because people look for those letter or just the joy of hearing there name call during mail but doing this takes away from a individual in custody happiness . applying this is a big adjustment where individuals in custody are already dealing the lockdowns and other issues now to make them worry about there mail is another thing upon their plate . (11/4/2025)

3119. I think the service is bad as far as timing. Im not with the idea of our pictures being scanned and loaded into our tablet if the pictures are being sent from an automated application anyways. (11/4/2025)

3120. I think the whole mail copy is good cause it will stop all the drug use in the prison"s. But, the pictures should still be aloud to be sent in without you guys photo copying them and give our pictures on paper. (11/4/2025)

3121. I think there must be a way to test our mail for drugs instead of keeping everyones mail from them. There are electronic detectors that can ""sniff out"" everything from drugs to explosives. Use that instead of this pain in the butt scanning thing. Start drug testing those locked up on a regular basis. (11/4/2025)

3122. I think this is not going to stop the situations they are trying to prevent.when the data report for contraband comes out(new legislature for ldoc) this will prove that more illegal contraband comes in the front gate by the prison staff than any other way.and that via mail is the least way contraband is brought in.my suggestion is to make employees be xray scanned before entering and leaving any facility to ensure safety.inmates should not be the only people who have to be subject to changes in the system. (11/4/2025)

3123. I think this is the right decison to prevent harmful things from getting in but can you provide alternate providers to get mail, or give a free amount of text messages each month so we can write our family on the tablet. (11/4/2025)

3124. I SERIOUSLY THINK THAT THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION'S DID A TERRIFIC AND GREAT JOB BY UTILIZING A NEW MAIL PROCEDURE DUE TO THE SYNTHETIC DRUG'S , SUCHAS , "RAID ROACH SPRAY" AND ALL OTHER TYPE'S OF UNKNOWN CHEMICAL'S , THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION'S HAS INDIRECTLY AND DIRECTLY SAVED A WHOLE LOT OF LIVE'S , *** I FIRST AND FOREMOST ,THANK GOD *** , AND WITH THAT , I WILL CLOSE THIS SURVEY WITH A STRONG THANK YOU !!!!!!!!! (11/4/2025)

3125. I support most of the changes to mail that is being done to try to stop the drug paper which is used daily by many inmates here at centralia. This drug paper puts my health and safety at risk as many days i am forced to breathe the secondhand smoke in the hallways. I am disappointed that the punishments for individuals in custody who are found under the influence of drugs are very weak, many times guys can barely walk or speak and nothing at all is done to them... Why??? Why not transfer any person in custody found using drug paper to a max prison??? It seems those of us not violating rules are put at risk by these guys and. They get away with it with little consequenses. One issue i would ask to be changed is the ban on hardcover books even when they come direct from publishers such as hamilton books??? Most of best deals are on over printed hardcover books, so i have not been able to buy many books i want because of this new policy caused by guys who want to sit around everyday smoking paper. (11/4/2025)

3126. I thick it's not a good idea how the mail is.Its herd for my family to send mail now. (11/4/2025)

3127. I think by them takeing are mail was not law. i dont think no court told them that they can do this. so i think it's crazy that I D O C wont us to go by the rules. but they dont go by the ones thats set for them they be on us when we do something but when they do something thats unlawful it's okay. (11/4/2025)

3128. I think idoc is a joke sadly. Much of what goes on is politics withthe typical public face. (11/4/2025)

3129. I think for safety reasons that scanning mail is a good idea. I believe that limting items we can get shipped in is also a good thing. (11/4/2025)

3130. I think this will stop most drugs from coming in. When someone asks for their mail, it should be tested. If negative then give it to them. If positive then.... (11/4/2025)

3131. I think this whole thing is a mess. Its only creating more work and stress for evrryone involved. In the long run its going to open up a worm hole of lawsuits on both sides. (11/4/2025)

3132. I think this will help us to get our mail faster and more efficiently (11/4/2025)

3133. I think this process is wonderful. No-one should do drugs it stops a lot of violence and believe it or not gives people the chance to correct their behavior and be better for themselves and others. It also keeps crrectional officers safe (11/4/2025)

3134. I think this is the safeat way to do what you guys are trying to accomplish (11/4/2025)

3135. I think going digital on all mail is a good thing.it can break down on alot of problems and definately help to lower or eliminate the contraband making its way inside.the sooner this happens the better for all including staff (11/4/2025)

3136. I think going electronic mail is a bad idea for the following reasons:
Just at I.R.C.C. we have over 1500 people and 1 mail person.
The mail room had hard enough time sorting the mail before having to scan it.
Not gettig paper mail will not stop tje drugs coming in.
And it is our right to be able to get and recieve paper mail. (11/4/2025)

3137. I think having mail from family should be allowed and they should have the resorces and resposability to keep the joint safe threw scanners (11/4/2025)

3138. I think it is wrong that those of us who dont smoke that stuff have to be punished with those who do by haveing our tangible letters taken from us!!!!!!!! I thought it was if i behave myself then i dont get punished with those who act a fool!!!!!!!! I dont smoke that stuff or have it sent in to me therefor i should be allowed to get my tangible mail sent to me until u prove that i dont deserve to have that priveledge then i have my mail resticted and then have my mail on the the tablet!!!!!! But its the same thing as always i get lumped in with those who are screw ups yet you want me to treat you as an individual and not lump you in with everyone else!!!!!! I think this mail restiction should be revised to not punish those of us who arent smoking that junk by allowing those of us who arent into smoking to have our tangible mail sent directly to us until we show we dont deserve it then punish us by resticting our mail!!!!! Thank you for your time. (11/4/2025)

3139. I think it not good cause are family can't send use mail thats not right cause other people cant enjoy something cause other people mistakes not ok just saying (11/4/2025)

3140. I think it realls sucks and is very inconvenient for inmates and staff alike to have to resort to scanning mail, but, every day I am forced to breath the toxic air created by those who smoke drugs and I do not have a choice. The smoke from these drugs cause headaches, eyes stinging, and mored labored breathing along with a sore throght. So if changing the way we receive our

mail will help clean up the inviroment that I am forced to live in than I'm all for it. (11/4/2025)

3141. I think it was smart on the overall mail change to stop the ignorant individuals from getting drugs sent in thats overall could affect the individuals cellmates who could be held responsible. (11/4/2025)

3142. I think it will be a good idea,i dont have to worry about my mail getting stolen and i can receive my mail. (11/4/2025)

3143. I think it yas done nothing to stop drugs and has only slowed down us recieving mail and allowing drug dealers in prison to charge more.. (11/4/2025)

3144. I think its a good idea and a great way to stop harmful substances from coming in. (11/4/2025)

3145. I think it's a great idea to scan the mail. Anything to prevent drugs from getting near me would always be a good thing. Thank you. (11/4/2025)

3146. I think its a violation of my human rights to recieve mail from my family but i umdrrstand because of the drug problems but the drugs are not always coming in that way. I have been around situations like this a lot in my life and money is the root of all evil. People in power like the money and the conflict of inmates fighting which is their reason for needing more co's. So food for thought whos bringing the drugs through the gate????????? (11/4/2025)

3147. I think its another way to violate justice impacted persons right to litagate ...its away for jails to spy on legal work and compeletly unconstituional (11/4/2025)

3148. I think its bullshit. And its against the law. So where yall storing our personal mail? What if that letter is important. Some hold sentimental value to us. Its just not right. We have a right to that mail. You all have to take the right procautions to make sure its not tampered with. Cant just punish everyone for someone else. If we not on mail watch we should be able to receive our letters. Thats how i feel about it. (11/4/2025)

3149. I think its crazy about the mail bc its better 2 get a letter thru the mail but its nothing u can do about it. I have been coming 2 prison since 1990 & drugs have always been here in one way or another. Guys are only hurting themselves but I understand why they are doing it but I think its so many other things they can put energy into like we only going 2 store once a month or longer & u only can buy so many things or that they gave us these tablets & even gave us extra phone minutes but we need more towers or whatever so the phones can work better & they away our rec & guys like me need that bc Im 53 yrs old. I just think its other things 2 focus on & thats my honest answer & Ill be home in a month or 2 so Im saying all this 2 help the guys who going 2 be in here. I dont know whats going on at other places, I only can speak for Hill C.C. (11/4/2025)

3150. I think its good these changes are good but I don't know how well its going to keep the drugs out. There's always a way, plus without it all kinds of fights are going to take place. All in

all though, for addiction purposes its good. (11/4/2025)

3151. I think mail should be online to a certain extent. I love books and i dont think they should disappear from being able to be sent in. Ive got 9 years left since writing/texting this. (11/4/2025)

3152. I think rhw rule change that has been implemented is very much neede to keep cinteaband our this enviroment, bu i also think that it is sad that a few people have made a mockery of the system. (11/4/2025)

3153. I think that if it was that serious to do this to our mail, why has'nt anyone in the mailroom not gone home sick? And things are already messed up so bad that it is taken some of the guys more than a month to get thier mail!! (11/4/2025)

3154. I think that it is a real travesty to not be able to recieve cards for birthdays and letters from our family and kids and things like that, especially when the authorities know who is doing what but still nothing is being done!! (11/4/2025)

3155. I think that it is another way to stop folks from communicating with their families. Drugs don't get here through the mail, it gets here thru medical. (11/4/2025)

3156. I think that it's a long overdue upgrade that in the long run will keep Inmates& staff members safe... (11/4/2025)

3157. I think that its illegal to open peoples mail (11/4/2025)

3158. I think that its unfair to put the mail on the tablet, not scanning all of your mail. Its very strange to start these changes now. (11/4/2025)

3159. I think that mail should still come threw because everybody does not do drugs so why stop my mail if i never did nothing to lose my mail (11/4/2025)

3160. I think that putting the mail on the tablets is a good thing. I am very frustrated by other inmates smoking drugs that they get in through the mail! (11/4/2025)

3161. I think that scanning the incoming mail is a good thing. Hopefully it will put an end to the contraband coming in via the mail. (11/4/2025)

3162. I think that stopping the mail from physically coming in is a good thing and it should STOP the drugs fom coming in altogether. However, l do have concerns about the drugs coming in to the prisons from those who work inside the prisons. Guards in general are waaaaaayyyyyyyyyyyyy too friendly with inmates. Then there are the guards that allow certain groups to get away with all kinds of things while severly chastising someone else for doing the same things. There is no consistency in THIS prison.
The officers that were making a HUGE difference in changing life inside have all been told that they have too calm down because they are scaring the RESIDENTS IN CUSTODY. What a crock of shit. We have ALL broken the law without regard to others and now these COWARDS

come to punishment and the SYSTEM allows for them to act as females and run around with there boy tits out, and I AM SUPPOSED TO TAKE YOUR RULES SERIOUS?
Again, what a crock of shit! The system is what it is because every person in congress has their own agenda's and continually screw things up with their bullshit.
If you want to make positive change inside these walls, you NEED to start allowing for people like myself take the programs that will help me get home sooner. But NO! With having 8 years left to do, I can not get into the Sex Offender Treatment program, even though it is voluntary UNTIL I HAVE TWO (2) YEARS LEFT ON MY SENTENCE. Hell, I can't even get into Anger Management because of the same problem.
THIS SYSTEM AS IT IS SET UP RIGHT NOW PUNISHES THOSE OF US THAT ARE TRYING TO DO GOOD AND STAY OUT OF TROUBLE, AND CONGRADULATES THOSE THAT ARE CONSTANTLY GETTING INTO TROUBLE.
THERE ARE NO REAL CONSEQUENCES ANYMORE THAT AFFECT US BEHIND THESE PHYSICAL WALLS. AND...WE...KNOW...THAT!!!
Sure putting the mail on the Tablet will change some of the problem, but there will STILL be a problem!
(11/4/2025)

3163. I think that the change to the mail is a good way to stop some of the drugs voming in but there is alwsys officers and workers who could smuggle drugs in and even tge visitors too. The staff should be held to a higher standerd in this matter, its known that officers bring drugs in the facilities aswell as some othe staff, if you take time to enhance the inmates side of the mail/drug problem the staff should also be enhanced as its only logical to improve all aspects of the security system, this includes chewing tobacco as it should not even be on the grounds much less in the hands of inmates... I do think that the mail is taking too long to be processed aswell... It shouldnt take 4 months for books to come through nor 3 months for pictures thats to long there is a problem there for sure... Upgrade that aspect please. I can further my rehabilatation faster if i can order books that educate and help me and they dont take a year to get to me... (11/4/2025)

3164. I think that the changesbto the mail policy are good.There was way too much drugs in IDOC.Since the implementation of the new policy there has already been a huge reduction in the amount of drugs.I am very glad of that.I do not like that used books will still be heavily scrutinised even when coming directly from vendors because Graham C.C. is overly restrictive with books.They deny books thats paper is discolored from age and fornextremely light water damage.I doubt Amazon is sending drug laced books into prisons.Also the memo on the new rules doesnt address hotos coming from vendors such as Greeprints.I hope that we can still recieve physical copies of photographs. (11/4/2025)

3165. I think that the mail i recieve on the tablet is fine. I hate that drugs are being sent in through the mail or any way else. I dont believe it will completely stop it, and judging from what ive personally seen no paper mail isnt the cure or complete answer to these problems. Officers will still continue to bring in contraband, and the prices will only be inflated to the point where theft between individuals in custody will only get worse. How about ending the truth in sentencing act and releasing first time offenders to reduce populations and actually make the consequences for possession and use of drugs in prison more severe. Add time to sentences, put inmates who use drugs in seg longer, or here's a novel idea,make that stuff so deadly that one hit

will kill them. That would surely solve the problem, natural selection... Inmates who do not do drugs have to suffer consequences from those who do. I've been stolen from, assaulted physically, thrown up on, exposed to paper smoke etc etc time and again only to see those guilty be exaulted and treated kindly, given jobs, and slapped on the wrist. That's just my opinion, i hope DOC takes these surveys to heart and finally do the job their supposed to do and protect IIC within the walls of all facilities. (11/4/2025)

3166. I think that the newly proposed changes to the mailing system in IDOC is a good step toward eradicating the influx of drugs into our prison population. I am a Master's Degree graduate from Stateville's first North Park University cohort back in May of 2022, and through all of my education on restorative practices in violent contexts (such as prison and impoverished communities in Chicago where I grew up), i've learned that one of the greatest challenges we face is drug addiction. While Trump is out there waging war on the cartels and other groups who are smuggling illegal and very deadly drugs into our country and destroying our American communities, the IDOC is taking important steps in stopping the criminal smuggling of both illegal and also deadly drugs into our jail and prison facilities across the State in a serious effort to save and protect the lives of human beings who are currently under their custody. To me, these changes should've happened over a decade ago in my 24 plus years of being incarcerated. I hate to see people giving up their potential (with all of their gifts and talents (who would otherwise contribute to improving our inside an outside communities) to obtaining a temporary feeling of being high and feeling good as a form of escape from their reality, and all at the cost of deteriorating their mental and physical health, as well as putting their lives at risk while exposing their neighbors to these deadly synthetic and illegal poisons. As far as i'm concerned, i'm glad these changes to the prison mailing system are now being implemented and i'm grateful for everyone involved who is contributing to this reform. I would recommend that the IDOC goes a step further toward ensuring that the "big silent pink elephant" in the room be addressed, and that is the probability that some of these harmful illegal drugs might also be smuggled in by some of their own staff members. There should be stricter measures incorporated to make sure that no more drugs ever come into our facilities. In this way, the prison population that struggles with addiction will have a better chance at getting clean and sitting down long enough to clear their minds and focusing on getting rehabilitated. Having said this, I am in support of these current changes to the mail, and as a certified Peer Educator for the IDOC's Illinois Department of Public Health Services, I will continue to support these kinds of policy changes to improve our residents' health and safety. Thank you and God bless you. (11/4/2025)

3167. I think that the right steps to tackle this situation is to check with people in charge to make sure that certain products arent being brought in through their staff like it was being done in cook county. Also there are rumors that people in industries are involved... I dont think it is coming in through the mail. (11/4/2025)

3168. I think that this is a very good idea. I am absolutely tired of these IIC's with all of the paper crack. Keep up the good work and best of luck with trying to keep up with the new ways they come up with to get the drug in. (11/4/2025)

3169. I recently got denied delivery of a book from a authorized used book vendor, missouri books for prisoners. It was denied due to writing of some kind in a margin. If this this is from a

authorized vendor it should be allowed. It is not like an individual sent me this book from another state. When this vendor was authorized by IDOC it was known to be used books. (11/4/2025)

3170. I recently received a letter from a family member, and the end of the letter was barely seen on the tablet. Even after i blew up the pic i couldn't see the last bit. They should be more careful of how they put it on our tablets so that it shows all things wrote from a friend or family member because each sentence to the end is important to us. (11/4/2025)

3171. I recieved a letter from the governors office recently and it wasnt given to me. It was uploaded to my tablet. I should of recieved the actual letter as a privledged letter. I also recieved a halmark card from my mom with 2 pictures of my newborn grand daughter still in the hospital i want those pictures and the card to have and keep in my possetion. Those memorable things i want to hold onto an shouldnt be didgitized. You can scan them for forein substances and see nothing is on them they were printed at CVS and mailed to me by my 60year old mother its rediculose that i can have and keep them. Thing like that people keep for life as a keepsake and memorable moment. And having an physicaly holding mail from your loved ones helps an inmates mental state. Ive been locked up 11 of the last 15 years almost an i know the feeling of opening a letter or card and how it affects you emotioally to read it, hold it, and know your loved one held it to, and to smell the familararity of that person on the card or letter, and to be able to reach over and grab it out of my corrispondance box a reread it and hold it any time i want. A digital copy for only 6 months can never replace that and will only lead to more depression and bad mental states of most if not all long term inmates. I know it from personal experience how a physical card letter and picture can effect your emotional and mental state. I strongly disagree with this digital mail. And i think there has to be a better way to screen or scan mail for contraband materials on them so that inmates like me that arent participating in drug or other contoband substances through the mail can still recieve the actual physical mail sent in from our friends family and loved ones. The department if corrections should not be able to take the physical mail from inmates or people in custody whatever you choose to call us. Your letting the bad apples ruin it for the good ones and that isnt right. I remember in 2011 when i went months without hearing anything from my family at all, and one day i woke up and a letter fromy sister was sitting there and when i grabbed the envelope befor i even opened it i started crying my emotions just took me over and ill never forget that day. And nothing scanned on my tablet could ever replace feeling i felt that day. Dont deprive me or other inmates of memories like that. Give us our physical mail back for reasons like that. Its flat out good for our mental health. That memory has a tear coming from my eye now. Thank you very much for reading this and please take everything i said into serious consideration thank you.

Sincerly Michael Williams M19621
Sheridan C.C.
4017 E. 2603 road
Sheridan, IL 60551 (11/4/2025)

3172. I see it as a positive movement. Being able to read your mail as it pops up. As long as the institution doen not take 1000 years to copy it to your tablet it should be great. Many times it took 3 weeks or so just to get your mail? Or greeting cards, birthday cards would be sent back to our loved ones due to glitter or marker on them? (11/4/2025)

3173. I think its a good way to stop the drugs from comming in but i belive it slows down the out going and in comming mail cause allready understaff i know for a fact its taking longerthan a week for my legal mail to go out and back also has really slowed down my bible study stuff (11/4/2025)

3174. I think that it is more of an inconvience for us because i don't think we will get fast enough response for our print outs when we want them. (11/4/2025)

3175. I think that this proposal is a terrible idea, for the simple fact that we already have had major complications receiving our mail prior to this action. For example, here at Graham C.C., the mailroom staff is excessively slow in processing and delivering our mail. I have been receiving a lot of my mail two and three months behind since I'd been at this institution. In approximatley mid September, 2025, two letters was scanned to my tablet; around that same time I had submitted a request slip to the mailroom staff, requesting copies of those letters, to no avail have they fulfilled my requests. In fact, they never even responded to any of my requests. Here it is November 4, 2025, and I have submitted four requests slips to the mailroom staff about this same issue, and I submitted a grievance about it. One of the letters came from I.D.O.C.'s "Freedom of Information Office", and I don't know why I could not receive the physical letter of a document that comes from one of the Illinois Department of Corrections departments. I really needed that letter from the Freedom of Information Office, because my request was denied, and I have to sent the denial letter along with the appeal, in order to appeal it. But how could I appeal it if the mailroom is refusing to sent me the letter, or copy the letter and send it to me. This proposal on the mail scanning is a bad idea, especially for people like me who has been staying positive and do not indulge in drugs and brain altering substances. Why should I have to be punished for someone elses madness, and I am against those activities as well. Graham Correctional Center has already had a terrible practice in processing and delivering our mail to us in a timely manner. If this proposal becomes law, the worst is yet to come. I beg you all to please do away with that proposal. We do not need more complications. Making that proposal law will only give corrupt mailroom staff officials another unjust game to play with us individuals incarcerated, because they feel that they can do it without consequences, as been a wide spread practice for so long. I have been incarcerated for over 23 years, and I have witnessed so much corruption within these facilities. I could almost predict the outcome of this proposal, and it's not right at all.
(11/4/2025)

3176. I think electronic mail is stupid because what about memories and things that matter from family. Like i have a card from my dad with his writting and i cherish it to this day. I would have that if you put mail on the dumb electronic. (11/4/2025)

3177. I think it is wrong,my mother pass on to the next life on [6.6.2025].i'm only talking about this because all i have is her letters and pictures,to hold me and help with remember how she look and talk.The new way cannot do that,because in time you will put her in the tarsh.With no feeling. (11/4/2025)

3178. I think it sucks because our mail is sentimental to us and for. It to b shredded after loaded

onto tablets but erased from the tablet after 6 months or when we return them we lose all sentimental value of our mail that we have rights to per the constitution (11/4/2025)

3179. I think it takes away the fact that you can have letters from love ones because the mail on the tablet only last so long (11/4/2025)

3180. I think it takes away the personal feel of mail and pictures. I get why they are doing it thoigh. (11/4/2025)

3181. I think its bad because, we cant get the original of whatever it is that our family or friends are sending us, they took time out of there live to send something meaningful to us and its just not the same as having the original... (11/4/2025)

3182. I think its bogus because our family takes the time and money to snd us letters and cards r whatever to be set to us and its personal so if anything they shpuld.be held until.our release. Because thats something personal from our loved ones that shouldnt be thrown out after its posted on our tablets only.for 6 months
(11/4/2025)

3183. I Think Taking Away Real Pictures Is Kinda Ironic Because its sum people that have over 15 years in prison and pictures delete after 6 months and our memory's dissapear to thats not right because i wanna watch my kids grow up through there pictures and not on the tablet i wanna feel the kard my kids drew not see no picture thats not the same effect (11/4/2025)

3184. I think that having our mail delivered on the tablet is inhumane. Some people dont have a working tablet and there is no timeframe of when they can get another. Electronic delivery is also inhumane because to get a handwritten letter from your child is priceless. An not just a printout of the mail but something that was held in the hands of a loved one (11/4/2025)

3185. I think that keepig our mail from us is totally wrong because to me it means a lot when i can have in my possesion the actual mail that my family sends me. And just having it loaded on the tablet for only 6 months takes away the joy of enjoying it the rest of my time in prison. (11/4/2025)

3186. I think that mail weather it be photos, letters, or other should be given to us the way it comes because personally i save all my letters and like to put my photos in photo albums to show people. (11/4/2025)

3187. I think that physical mail is important because it has a sense of attachment that links family, friends and spouse's together by sharing something they've both touched or written. Digital mail will take that away and there will be no more being able to pick up old letters from people who've passed on as a reminder. Also everyone should not be punished for the acts of others when they haven't been invovled in what made this change come about. Mail on the tablets can be lost easy i.e. a transfer or your tablet is broken or theres a glitch that cause history to be altered or deleted. The mail system is not broken it just needs more attention by screening it physiclly and making documention of the people who attemp to take advantage of whats been in

place for years. Make those indiviuals have to convert to digital mail for punishment due to abuse of the mailroom. (11/4/2025)

3188. I think that these new rules actually make it harder for us individuals in custody to stay in relational communication with our families and friends. They cannot send us cards in bulk, like christmas cards, that we can then send in mass at holidays. Yes, we can ger three cards on commissary, but who wants to send all four of my sons -who are now adults- the exact same card every year for the next 23 years? We cannot even get wall calendars anymore which goes a long way to help us keep track of issues that occur in our facilities with our health, school, and other activities as well as our families dates of note. (11/4/2025)

3189. i think thatshould honsetly be thought through due to the fact mail from loved one is 1 of the most centimental peices of property in a person possesion they hold a a persons mental in being able to read a letter sent from loved ones hand writing i think tampering with someones mail among other things done in idoc goes way beyond what your job actually is imstead we should be focused on providing what we need to promote peace and do our time (11/4/2025)

3190. I Think This Method Infriges On Privacy Issues As Well As Content And What Happens To My Personal Heartfelt Mail After It Gets Xeroxed Oe Copied? (11/4/2025)

3191. I think those who are caught and have mail restiction before should be subject to scanned mail there are those who dont get into that but are forced into there mail being scanned I can get picture painted/drawn by my grandkids or they write in crayon. (11/4/2025)

3192. I recieved a letter from the Illinois secretary of state,and was informed to contact the Missouri secretary of state,and send the response to the Illinois secretary of state to resolve a matter Ive been corrsponding about.The letter was uploaded to the tablet.I submitted several request slips to the mailroom asking for a copy and also explaining why I needed the copy with no response given.Its a major inconvenience that I cant get a copy of my mail when requested hindering me from taking care of a necessity.Mail takes more than 30 days from the post date to be uploaded which is ridiculous.Idoc needs to find another solution to whatever security problems its having because this mail system is cleary making things more complicated than they already were. (11/4/2025)

3193. I still have not receive any mail yet at all nothing on this tablet i guess no news is great news but i want to hear some news mail would be great this new rule change is crazy and stupid i rather have physical mail not this tablet mail (11/4/2025)

3194. I strongly dislike the digital mail as the hard copy letters mean something to me. I should be able to hold on to my letters for as long as i deam fit. Not just for 6 months until it gets deleted off my tablet, even though it states we can request a copy of our mail. The facility here does not respond to our requests and very few people are getting the copies of their mail. Plus there has been several mistakes were other inmates have gotten the wrong mail an that becomes a safety concern for our people on the outside. if that individual has a problem with another they can start harrasing the free people. I just want the digital mailing to stop as its just taking one more thing of happeness away from us. Our mail is very important to us, not everyone is sending

contraband in with the mail. Not everyone should be punished for the ones who may do it. (11/4/2025)

3195. I strongly feel that not being able to have access to original mean is unacceptable be people take pride in things that they family member send them . birthday cards holiday cards etc not being in its original form is wrong . it defeats the purpose of loved one spending they time and hard earned money on they loved ones in prison .visitation restrictions i see no problem with because of the safety of individuals in custody, but far as pictures , letters ,cards books etc is wrong because people like to keep track of what they family or loved ones send in .someone could die and live through memories with those type of items . not having the orginal documents are unacceptable and i 100% dont agree. (11/4/2025)

3196. I subscribe to TV Guide magazine. Recently, they mailed me a bill that was scanned. This stops me from payingbthe bill because I do not have a paper copy to mail back with the payment. (11/4/2025)

3197. I think its bullshit i would rather have my pictures then have them sent to my tablet an fuck this shit i want to go home my host site was apprived two weeks ago and my aunt signed for me to parole there its wednesday novevember fifth 2025 two weeks ago it got signed free me fuck prison (11/4/2025)

3198. I think its disrespectful that the mail is on our tablets. We should be able to hold the mail. To physically see the mail. It is an invasion of ou privacy as well. We dont read other peoples mail because its against the law. So why are they READING and SCANNING our mail? We dont know if theyre saving our mail onto an online database or not. I think its ethical (11/4/2025)

3199. I think changing the mail system from where it was to whats to be persents there will br a lot of miscuculed elements being that the outcome of the dapartment are not a establishmemt to put 100% into what needed & or should have,with todays genre of IDOC its all about,scheming & obtaining what can ne had or what can be gain outvof the situation (11/4/2025)

3200. I think that it shouldnt be like this ther reason i think this is because its gonna make it a bigger hassle for the inmates the reason its gonna be a hassle for the inmates is because we have to wait for them to scan it and check it for contraband and then they gotta put it on the tablet i think its a lazier way for the C.O's to give out mail because they dont wanna pass it out thats so lazy so please put it back how it was we just get the mail in person and also the mail on the tablet deletes within a certain amount of days whenever we can just have it for life when mail gets passed out (11/4/2025)

3201. I think that the new mail system is ridiculous, and is making it more difficult, stressful in an already unjustice inhumane system. Thats putting a strain on relationships, and love ones. (11/4/2025)

3202. I think that the new set up is boguish. All raedy they are resyricting photos of our loved ones from coming on to the facility based on the image that we as the prisoner have no control over what that image may look like or be. Then they want to put our photos into a scanner that

will refilter them after a period of time and wipe them away. Or they will give us a computer image or general paper that is of low quality and the paper fades over time destroying the image that is often sacred due to the one in the photo has passed on. The image can never be retrieved. I'd rather have the photo on top quality paper. That i can keep stored inside my photo ablum book. (11/4/2025)

3203. I think that they should not change the mail to be posted on are Bulliten because people like me like to do law work in get law books in pictures of their kids in on the Bulliten app are pictures only stay posted for 6 months then when that 6 months is up then how am i gone look at my kids after that in the letters that is stuff you post to always keep in now you cant because its on the app for 6 months (11/4/2025)

3204. I think that this is a good and bad idea because it will help to stop drugs coming in but it will not be good for someone like me because i was just getting read to have the book that i am writing sent back to me so i can finish it. There is nothing like holding the mail that your family or friends sent in your hands. This takes away that physical aspect of it. I believe that there could have been another choice besides the digital one choosen. I qm glade though that something is getting done to combat the drug problem in DOC. Thank you for your time and consideration. (11/4/2025)

3205. I think that this is an ineffective way an is taking even longer to recieve our mail now it is taking a month to recieve a letter. You are using the excuse drugs coming in through the mail when the people processing the mail previously and currently are not being affected by coming in contact with the drugs and having effects, apperantly only the officers are having effects from the drugs. (11/4/2025)

3206. I should be given the option to have my letters from loved ones either given to me or held onto at property until i am released. This tablet is a rental, and is a privelage, while personal letters from family are sentimental. I cant access my mail on the tablet if the wifi is out or if my tablet is damaged, but i can always read a letter from a family member. I dont like the new mail policy at all. (11/4/2025)

3207. I prefer it acrually especially if i will have a speedier access to my mail. I believe our pictures should be able to be added to the media part of these tablets within our accounts. That way we can have like a 500 picture limit digitally and once we reach the limit we can choose to remove some here and there for other pictures. Currently it is said we will only have access to pictures 6 months after receiving them. (11/4/2025)

3208. I suggest that religious organizations, bible study groups, book to prisoner associations ...etc with a long history of reliable service to the deprtment or incarcerated individuals should have a partial or full exemptions from the proposed mail rule change to send individuals or groups of individuals books, calendars, monthly planners, work sheets, educational or religious & other similar materials without violating the new rule. Thank you for listening. I wish you & your staff good health, happiness, safety & success (11/4/2025)

3209. I think it would be better if we are able to opt in or out to habe our mail send you us on

the us or to have it sent to us via physical mail, also there should be a notepad on the tablet. It would be really useful and helpful for people to have a place to keep there numbers safe and not or someone to be able to steal. (11/4/2025)

3210. I think its a good idea ,but i also think the people who are bringing it in should be held acountible and not just sent right back to the wing they come from it makes the people like myself who do follow the rules get punished for their actions wich to me aint fair.i mean why dont you send them to a worse prison where they fit right in with the people that dont care about themselves or others ..there is creepshow freakshow sex offinders here along with miner offences that shouldnt be housed with killers and rape offenders that would just assume kill you because they already have life to do in here...to me its wrong .and if they wanna become a woman the put them on their own wing ...with their own shower schedeual problem solved they could be fags or freakshow creepshow all in one pile ...i think the same should be done with the young gangster type ..the should all be housed together period... (11/4/2025)

3211. I think its a good thing to put our mail on our tablets to stop or slow down the drugs coming into our facilities. However, you have to be able to print the mail upon our request. Currently, the mailroom claims that they cannot print our mail. I have to file my taxes every year and I have to attach my 1099-Div to my tax form.
The publication review changes should be altered to allow us to order non-penetration nude magazines. Were adult men and the current system doesn't allow us to receive non-penetration nude magazines. (11/4/2025)

3212. I think charging people with new cases will stop people from getting high and listening to phone converstions for people having their family tranfer funds to the person who has the drug.laced paper or putting known smoker on the same wing me personal i don't like having a person that gets high in my cell and i lose if i make them walk their self or fight or if i go to the officers i'm labeled as a snitch so it alot (11/4/2025)

3213. I thank it is best for everyone on the basic level and that now there will be no excusess on the drugs coming in prisons. They need help in that aspect but i also thank there should be cigerettes in prison sent it not public and some people never get to go home (11/4/2025)

3214. I think that the department of illinois corrections should contract a third party mailing system like the wisconsin doc has. The company is called textbehind (11/4/2025)

3215. I think that the mail changes are good and bad for example i get that you are trying to track down on drugs being smuggled into the facility but i think carefully looking at the mail and getting a drug scanner would do the job just carefully scrutinize certain mail tjat may look odd and suspicious now on the other hand there are people like me who dont really care about drugs or alcohol and my mail is 95% friends and 5% family because i talk to them on the phone but they send me pictures and motivational cards and now i am told i will not be able to get them so that little piece of mail im being constricted to i cant have and having the actual letter in my possesion will allow me to look at it anytime i want as opposed to the new rule that was set to be put on the tablet and it would be erased after 6 months so now i am given a time line to have my mail and im not gonna lie it plays with my anxiety and then deppression will soon follow

Thank You! (11/4/2025)

3216. I think that the mailing process should go back to what used to be and it was so much better than this new stuff you are doing or get a scanning station in our area so we do not have to wait so long for our mail to get to us and things would be so much better for all of ue here in big muddy river correctional center this is my suggestion (11/4/2025)

3217. I receive some mail that have gotten uploaded to the tablet that was very important to my case that i need copies of which i sent out a request weeks ago asking for that document and i have yet to recieve it i need to obtain that document in order to take it to the library to get it notirize then copied then send it back out to my lawyer this mail scan is slowing up the mail process which people as in those in custody is doing most of their legal work there self which we have to find another way to handle this mail situation officers claim that they have been falling out over the drugs thats connected to the mail which is a lie we are inside here and see and hear everything which most of us would not speak on but what i could say is touching or even smelling drug contain papper is not no where near effective to the point to make anyone fall out let along even get high u will have to actually smoke it to feel anything so all that falling out the officers claim is a lie if this is the case ask them for a package of the so called mail drug evidence and test it for your self and u will see nothing will happen this is just another way to controll and take away from us one more thing that make us feel closer to our love ones and our legal process we have dead lines within the legal system and this mail scan thing is making it harder to get things done. (11/4/2025)

3218. I sent out privileged mail to a Illinois state representative and it came back return to sender but it was opened and put on my tablet why was it opened??? Why cant they send me a requested physical copy??????? (11/4/2025)

3219. I think it's a good thing that you are trying to stop the problem with the drugs. For me my only concern is with the pictures. What happens to the ones that are sent after they have been sent to the tablet. (11/4/2025)

3220. I still have not received any update on the Postal Service in my bulletin board. (11/4/2025)

3221. I think you are doing the mail change to try and save face with politicians. I do not think this will solve your problem. Some people get paper mail today some get it on tablet. Must be same for all. Also, taking courses on EDOVO that we can send our answers and get in the mail a transcript and certificate we are told we can do this however it seems we cannot. You want to stop the drugs then STOP the drugs. Each person getting high and their supplier write them up. Health,safeety, sanitation violation. Also, charge them with introduction of dangetous contraband into a correcetional facility. That is a felony. Do this each time they get high or cpass out drugs. They get a couple of years (c) grade, no commissary,loss of good yime and get more time added to their sentence problem solved. Personal family photos that may never be seen again vecause ahing mother is ckose to death one is no longer allowed to have. This is not fair to those of us that follow the rules. Respectfully L. J. Shimer (11/5/2025)

3222. I truly know that ALL of this is another fabricated creation by union heads with Council 31, in the AFSCME. If they have their way, staff will be paid more for doing no work! I have been incarcerated right now for over 25 years. I am one of those rare prisoners that staff and prisoner alike, trusts. I'm told everything. NEVER have I seen a prisoner get weapons or phones mailed in, concealed in books. How is that even possible without STAFF ASSISTANCE? ALL mail, photos, and publications is always searched and inspected before being distributed to prisoners in ALL facilities. How is it getting past a staff member THAT IS DOING HIS/HER JOB? This is an excessive rule change. I could see it applying to those that DO or attempt to get contraband smuggled in. Not receiving physical mail could be a form of discipline. One of my major concerns is the obstacles pro se petitioners in the courts will face. For example, I am banned from accessing Graham's law library by it's racist librarian, Sarah Green. In 2023, I overheard her call another prisoner a 'nigger.' Prison officials covered it up, and ALL are okay with her blocking my access to the law library and my excess legal boxes. All of my grievances have been denied. I am forced to mail documents out, legal documents, as non-legal, to get photocopies. If 5 copies are mailed back from my mother, for example, who is not a lawyer, making the mail non-legal, I will not get the required 5 copies, I'll get one scanned onto my tablet, which does me no good. There is other instances, like pro se petitioners seeking affidavits to provide to the courts to support whatever needed filing. We will not receive the physical affidavit... then to make it even more of an obstacle, our scanned mail will only be on the tablet for 6 months. I can go on and on about how it will hinder our sixth amendment rght to confer with legal representation. I communicate with a wide range of lawyers, firms, innocence projects, etc. Sometimes they forget to mark "legal mail" on the envelope. This would automatically make my mail eligible to be scanned. I'm sure IDOC's keystone cops (Internal Affairs/Intel), will be providing access to this mail to the State's Attorneys Office that handles our criminal cases. IDOC has had a constant, well-documented hand in my criminal case for decades. [See initial complaint in 'Brown v. Hasemyer, et al., 22-1384-SPM, in the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois.'] Alot of what IDOC officials do IS LIE! When I was in 24 House, the 'union meeting room' was oddly located in one of the old counselor offices in that unit. If you go in 24-D-16, you can hear what is being said in that room because they share a wall and ventilation. We'd listen to them discussing having members call off sick because of these fabricated claims of coming into contact with drug laced mail. How members need to come together to get 'that black bitch in Chicago,' removed from office. (Obviously, they were talking about Director Latoya Hughes.) It was comical. Once they found out what we were doing, through their snitches that inform for job assignments, they moved that office to the admin. building. I can go on and on with what I have personally witnessed about their exaggerated drug epidemic! Staff know these guys that indulge are getting high off bug spray and other insecticides that are available WITHIN the prisons. It isn't coming from anywhere except IN HERE! We are already hearing staff joke about selling us a page for $1,500! As it has been since I first arrived to the adult facilities in 1992, a majority of all contraband is brought in by staff, paid members of local 31! I stand by my claims. (11/5/2025)

3223. I understand we have been told how to submit a request to print our mail. I followed the instructions and submitted a request to print a piece of mail yet still ive not received the printed item. Will this be addressed? It is important mail for my records i need a physical copy of. (11/5/2025)

3224. I understand what you are trying to do, but it is effecting my court procedure, I don't have a attorney so all of my fileings are pro-se. Plus with all of these lockdowns due to staff shortage limits my ablity to go to the law library and use the efile. Trust me I'm all for getting rid of drugs out of the department of corrections because this thing is long out of control. Thanks to our dirrector who is not afraid to allow advance tech. to come into IDOC let's give it a chance and if these dangerous drugs keep coming in. Then we may have to invest into AI for a better security, with no short of staff and no more staff assults. This is the furture that I look to saving the American tax payers money. (11/5/2025)

3225. I understand what's going on but my question will be why am I being punished for someone elses problems. I dont do any of what ever it is that is causing the issue with the mail. I've been gone now for almost 21 years and count on the little mail I recieve from loved ones. It's very special to me recieving letters from my 83 year old aunt or from my nephews. I believe that if it really was an issue the first one to get sick would be the mail handlers at the Post Office or the ones picking up letters at the mail boxes in the neighborhood. I would rather be told that the mailroom staff does not want to deal with sorting out the mail and/or hating the fact that some of us have family and friends that care. (11/5/2025)

3226. I understand where they are coming from, but I honestly think they are going too far. Now mail is later than it was. It was already late and then stuff from places like Channel Guide renewal forms or my Stratford goes on the tablet when I need it to send out money. (11/5/2025)

3227. I understand why the change in mail service is in act but we should be able to recoeve the actual copies of photos if its from a approved vendor auch as pelipost where our loved ones.uploads them the images and the company prints them out walgreens style an mails it out to us. If its coming from a approved vendor then we should have the actual copies rather then uploaded on tablet because it doesnt have any ""contraband"" or""chemicals"" on it such as the K2. By placing our photos on the tablet we only get 5 hrs of rental time and can renew each sesaion numerious times up til midnight but once midnight comes we have no access on tablet til 6 am the same goes with our letters/texts. Some people are depressed at night and sometimes cope by reading the letters/texts or looking at the pictures and by not having access to them from midnight to 6 am is very hard (11/5/2025)

3228. I understand why the department is implementing the change, but I honestly think they should leave the mail alone. One because the real pictures or letters from friends and family members mean more to us then photo copied ones. Also drugs or drug like substances are always going to find their way into prisons no matter how hard you try, as usual why should everyone be punished or subjected to these new rules because of others. (11/5/2025)

3229. I understand why these prisons are doing what their doing BUT it seems like they still dont even know how to go about the changes themselves mail is still taking long for us to get.Certain books,pictures (these are items coming straight from the vendor via mail Amazon,Bargain Books etc..) And even then they want to make copies of those items even though if it comes straight from the vendor we are suppose to be allowed to get them its ONLY if we get items sent from home is when these prisons are suppose to copy the items its all arrbitrary making the rules as they go along the inconsistencies here are always consistent that

somes it all up these prisons cant even fallow their own "policies and rules" (11/5/2025)

3230. I understand why they are doing this, for me I really dont get much mail so it is not a big deal. There are others may only get mail on birthdays or holidays, they may lose a loved one and wish that they could have that piece of mail. (11/5/2025)

3231. I understand Why They stop letting incoming mail. My issue is, we was told we could have the mail printed out but the mailroom here at Vienna .Corr.Ctr said they cant print it out. So if they cant print it out then why was we told we could? (11/5/2025)

3232. I understand your reasoning and support it. I only have one concern. Is it possible to pay shipping to have handwritten letters/cards sent home or have them picked up at visits? Handwritten items are personal and if we lose loved ones while locked up it could be only remaining personal things we have left of them. My grandma is not healthy and id really like to have the handwritten letters incase shes gone by the time i get out. (11/5/2025)

3233. I understand. Because of the incessant need to escape and the continually developing ingenuity and innovation of the incarcerated, because of a potential danger to those who chose to work in these facilities as staff and to the individuals in custody, because its extremely difficult to detect and tell who is sending it in. However, to some of us who want to go home and do so as a better version of ourselves. Feeling the same peice of paper my family and friends had touched, the ink from their pens swooping and swirling to create each word. And each word meant for me. What little family i have left means the world. The small sacrifices show their love. Not everyone is me, not everyone looks at these peices of paper with such emotion and the needs of the many outweighs the needs of the few. If this must be to return to my family in one peice and bring better changes in the future, so be it. Love always. (11/5/2025)

3234. I undetstand the impact that the mail is having as it relates to the sprayed paper, but like anything else there is always going to be a problem, i disagree with the reason because when mail is coming into the institution it is considered a personal touch brought on by a loved one. Its a sentimental value whereas someone took their time to write a persoal letter to you while you are in prison. Schools on the outside are struggling, families are struggling, and the world is struggling, Why? Because just like the internet people are depending upon computers for everything including mail. Why subject people who barely get that semblance of societal norms just to entrench upon their lives. This is all they have, and just because you deem someone unworthy to have a voice, you snatch what little they do have by implementing some gross deprivation of a fundamental right they have to be human. This is a horrific and insalubrious, yet notably eggregious act spurred on by the same shameful politicians that asked the same people to vote or have their families vote to not close down certain prisons because it would be catastrophic to the economy that surrounds the prison if it were to close, and here we are now implementing a program instead of finding a dog or some technology to find paper drugs. Ive had the unfortunate pleasure of residing in prison for a total of 31 years and not once have i delved in drugs, not once have i desired a drug, what i did do is educate myself, and steered far away from the balderdash that lurks inside prison walls, and yet some punishment always seem to find me. I understand though really, i do understand , because if prisons were equipped with opportunities then many more individuals in custody would be like me, just wanting a chance to

get better and do better upon returning back to society, for these reasons i respectfully dissent because mail changes doesnt solve the plethora of problems that we are facing, because people will try other ways to engulf themselves in other insalubrious ways to get toxins or other forms of drugs. We need real sollutions to real problems that are not only hurting prisons but society as well. (11/5/2025)

3235. I very much dislike the departmental change to the mail. The mailroom here at Illinois River Correctional Center is totally overwhelmed with how much scanning they will have to do of our mail. They dont have a big enough scanner to scan more than one picture or letter at a time. They have a little desktop scanner for a correctional center that houses about 1500 or more inmates. Our mail will takes weeks upon weeks to get to us. Thats Crazy!!! (11/5/2025)

3236. I would like to let the committee know that there is a group of about 140 individuals at this prison big muddy river th are civilly committed andtheir mail should in no way be tampered with they (we) are not convicted of a crime nor sent here for punitive purposes. To take our mail right away is a violation of our first amendment rights. IDOC should know whom tbey house in tneir prisons before stripping every right away from them expecially when you are housing non-convicted citizens that have the right to vote and hold other rights as well. This issue needs to be addressed. I myself have been in this prison for 28 plus years and there has never been an issue with drugs on the civilly committed persons wings at all. This needs to be addressed.
If you continue to want to go forth with this new rule or rules then i ask you to consider changing the incoming clerk mail for civilly committed persons, doctors that have evaluated us, public library be allowed to send info in to us, I would understand if you would have to scan all personal mail from family not business or public libraries, evaluators, out side law libraries (public) Freedom of information from other states please reapond to this (11/5/2025)

3237. I would like to propose the all incoming Priveleged, Legal, and/or Confidential mail be processed in a similiar fashion as all non-priveleged mail, but instead of being opened in the mailroom, the incoming Priveleged, Legal and/or Confidential mail be opened in the presence of the Individual In Custody (IIC), and once determined to contain NO contraband, the document(s) be color photocopied, with the copy being given directly to the IIC without being read, and the original be destroyed in the presence of the IIC to keep illegal, foriegn, dangerous, and/or nefarious substances out of the IDOC facilities sent from purported entities that are supposed to be beyond reproach, but in fact, could be convinced to "bend the rules," "for a price." No one in the world is beyond being bought, for the right price. Even Illinois' elected officials (see former Governors Rod Blagoyovich, James Thompson, and long time Speaker of The House, Michael Madigan) are not immune. If K2 can be sprayed on a letter from "friends and family" it can happen through lawyers, too. Again, NOBODY is beyond reproach. (11/5/2025)

3238. I, in theory, understand the need for a paperless system, however if the mail is then delayed or sent back w/out any proof or verification...this process then becomes an openly censored format. When it was paper mail we had less censorship of our loved ones content! There were no clear examples of staff reading our mail to determine it's legitamacy. With this new process, what type of redress or grievance could we persue if staff determines that there's an issue? They could simply say that content was "bad" or "inappropriate"! Without having to prove anything. And i have been locked up long enough (30 years) to know that these subjective

situation will occur. And why does it take over 7 days for an obituary to be scanned and put on my tablet. There need to be direct and clear guidelines posted as to the acceptance or rejection of mail. Especially when considering going to a paperless mail system. (11/5/2025)

3239. I understand this proposal, however, If I could offer some of my insights, it is most appreciated. I hope this is still a work in progress as the time limit and scanning period needs to be updated. It took over two weeks for my documents to reach me in the "Postal Mail" section. Also, the documents are sent to us, so we should have access to these indefinetely in this section. I would also like to recommend that IDOC adopt or implement the "Photo and Video Messaging" app on tablets. As we are flying through the digital age this would most certainly increase and offer positive and encouraging correspondence with family. This would strengthen communication while allowing individuals in custody the option to use this and regular mail and keep their higher quality digital images sent in this app. It is a win win and might alleviate some print requests for regular mail, as well. Finally, to add incentive for those who look to do their time and have different options, it would be greatly beneficial to offer and add more premium content on the tablets or different options which would increase IDOC revenue. For instance, adding PlutoTV, Netflix subscriptions, YouTube subscriptions, or Spotify subscriptions and other options with restrictions and other additions, can be used as incentive but would add additional revenue for IDOC. This would help some people tremendously if multiple options were presented for Premium options within our tablets. I thank you for your time and consideration of my comments and suggestions. (11/5/2025)

3240. I understand this proposal, however, If I could offer some of my insights, it is most appreciated. I hope this is still a work in progress as the time limit and scanning period needs to be updated. It took over two weeks for my documents to reach me in the "Postal Mail" section. Also, the documents are sent to us, so we should have access to these indefinetely in this section. I would also like to recommend that IDOC adopt or implement the "Photo and Video Messaging" app on tablets. As we are flying through the digital age this would most certainly increase and offer positive and encouraging correspondence with family. This would strengthen communication while allowing individuals in custody the option to use this and regular mail and keep their higher quality digital images sent in this app. It is a win win and might alleviate some print requests for regular mail, as well. Finally, to add incentive for those who look to do their time and have different options, it would be greatly beneficial to offer and add more premium content on the tablets or different options which would increase IDOC revenue. For instance, adding PlutoTV, Netflix subscriptions, YouTube subscriptions, or Spotify subscriptions and other options with restrictions and other additions, can be used as incentive but would add additional revenue for IDOC. This would help some people tremendously if multiple options were presented for Premium options within our tablets. I thank you for your time and consideration of my comments and suggestions. (11/5/2025)

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increase and offer positive and encouraging correspondence with family. This would strengthen communication while allowing individuals in custody the option to use this and regular mail and keep their higher quality digital images sent in this app. It is a win win and might alleviate some print requests for regular mail, as well. Finally, to add incentive for those who look to do their time and have different options, it would be greatly beneficial to offer and add more premium content on the tablets or different options which would increase IDOC revenue. For instance, adding PlutoTV, Netflix subscriptions, YouTube subscriptions, or Spotify subscriptions and other options with restrictions and other additions, can be used as incentive but would add additional revenue for IDOC. This would help some people tremendously if multiple options were presented for Premium options within our tablets. I thank you for your time and consideration of my comments and suggestions. (11/5/2025)

3242. I understand this proposal, however, If I could offer some of my insights, it is most appreciated. I hope this is still a work in progress as the time limit and scanning period needs to be updated. It took over two weeks for my documents to reach me in the "Postal Mail" section. Also, the documents are sent to us, so we should have access to these indefinetely in this section. I would also like to recommend that IDOC adopt or implement the "Photo and Video Messaging" app on tablets. As we are flying through the digital age this would most certainly increase and offer positive and encouraging correspondence with family. This would strengthen communication while allowing individuals in custody the option to use this and regular mail and keep their higher quality digital images sent in this app. It is a win win and might alleviate some print requests for regular mail, as well. Finally, to add incentive for those who look to do their time and have different options, it would be greatly beneficial to offer and add more premium content on the tablets or different options which would increase IDOC revenue. For instance, adding PlutoTV, Netflix subscriptions, YouTube subscriptions, or Spotify subscriptions and other options with restrictions and other additions, can be used as incentive but would add additional revenue for IDOC. This would help some people tremendously if multiple options were presented for Premium options within our tablets. I thank you for your time and consideration of my comments and suggestions. (11/5/2025)

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consideration of my comments and suggestions. (11/5/2025)

3244. I understand this proposal, however, If I could offer some of my insights, it is most appreciated. I hope this is still a work in progress as the time limit and scanning period needs to be updated. It took over two weeks for my documents to reach me in the "Postal Mail" section. Also, the documents are sent to us, so we should have access to these indefinetely in this section. Currently, it is only accessible for 6 months and deleted. Sometimes, money is spent on these documents, so they should be able to be kept permanently in this section. I would also like to recommend that IDOC adopt or implement the "Photo and Video Messaging" app on tablets. As we are flying through the digital age this would most certainly increase and offer positive and encouraging correspondence with family. This would strengthen communication while allowing individuals in custody the option to use this and regular mail and keep their higher quality digital images sent in this app. It is a win win and might alleviate some print requests for regular mail, as well. Finally, to add incentive for those who look to do their time and have different options, it would be greatly beneficial to offer and add more premium content on the tablets or different options which would increase IDOC revenue. For instance, adding PlutoTV, Netflix subscriptions, YouTube subscriptions, or Spotify subscriptions and other options with restrictions and other additions, can be used as incentive but would add additional revenue for IDOC while allowing more options for individuals in custoday. This would help some people tremendously if multiple options were presented for Premium options within our tablets. I thank you for your time and consideration of my comments and suggestions. (11/5/2025)

3245. I understand this proposal, however, If I could offer some of my insights, it is most appreciated. I hope this is still a work in progress as the time limit and scanning period needs to be updated. It took over two weeks for my documents to reach me in the "Postal Mail" section. Also, the documents are sent to us, so we should have access to these indefinetely in this section. Currently, it is only accessible for 6 months and deleted. Sometimes, money is spent on these documents, so they should be able to be kept permanently in this section. I would also like to recommend that IDOC adopt or implement the "Photo and Video Messaging" app on tablets. As we are flying through the digital age this would most certainly increase and offer positive and encouraging correspondence with family. This would strengthen communication while allowing individuals in custody the option to use this and regular mail and keep their higher quality digital images sent in this app. It is a win win and might alleviate some print requests for regular mail, as well. Finally, to add incentive for those who look to do their time and have different options, it would be greatly beneficial to offer and add more premium content on the tablets or different options which would increase IDOC revenue. For instance, adding PlutoTV, Netflix subscriptions, YouTube subscriptions, or Spotify subscriptions and other options with restrictions and other additions, can be used as incentive but would add additional revenue for IDOC while allowing more options for individuals in custoday. This would help some people tremendously if multiple options were presented for Premium options within our tablets. I thank you for your time and consideration of my comments and suggestions. (11/5/2025)

3246. I understand the need for change. However its the sentimental value of holding a book or a piece of paper knowing a love one held it as well. How can cards or pictures be reproduced? If i want to view pictures of love ones, i would have to stare at my tablet instead , thats discourging and can ultimatly play a diffrence on my mental health (11/5/2025)

3247. I understand the need for keeping the staff and all the individuals in custody safe from drugs, chemicals etc. That could posdobly come in through the mail. The thing i dont understand is what this memo stated today that only individuals without tablets can get copies of their mail, pictures etc. Some pictures are irreplaceable, perhaps the department could consider allowing those of us who want copies of certain articles of mail, cards or photos to pay for the copies, these funds could be used for whatever, IBF or IBF. (11/5/2025)

3248. I understand the need for safety for the drugs. But in the minnium joints and the drug rehabs i think it is sensless. (11/5/2025)

3249. I understand the need for such changes and I welcome them.I would like tk see photos be printed in color just the way they are sent to is,also give our family and friends the opportunity to send photos straight to our tablets from their phones?? Please and Thank You. (11/5/2025)

3250. I understand the need for the department to stop contraband from entering the facility. I do not have a problem with scanning mail to do so. My onlyproblem is the amount of time (approx a month)/it is taking to receive mail that is scanned. I realize that mail rooms only have so many staff members to process mail tjat is delivered and now to scann mail.
A suggestion....allow inmates to subscribe to magazines, get a better variety of books, and expecially put the "channel guide" on our tablets. Then not only will it be less mail for staff to deliver which in turn will make the scanning process faster of other mail. But it will also aid the dept in preventing contraband comming in to the facility (11/5/2025)

3251. I understand the need for this but IDOC was negligent in estimating how many staff would be needed to keep up with the demand. The mail room is understaffed so we are not getting our mail in a timely manner. My mother sent me a birthday card at the beginning of October and as of this date (11/4) i still have not received it.
(11/5/2025)

3252. I understand the need to curb the influx of contraband into prison facilities. However, this contraband is not flowing through MY mail. Ive been told that statistics show contraband is brought in by staff, not introduced through the mail system. Put experienced K9 teams in the mailroom. Hold drug awareness circles. And dont interrupt the flow of my mail without a well thought out plan for prevention. This half measure that is in place right now is delaying everyone's mail. Ive had a book that was delivered to the facility on October 10, 2025. Today is November 6, 2025 and I still have not received it. Staff has told me that the mailroom is in chaos. It has boxes of mail just piled everywhere. (11/5/2025)

3253. I understand the need to go digital on the subject of mail/ letters and such, as to provide a safe work environment for your staff and the residents of these facilities (individuals in custody). But to deny the residents the actual photos of loved ones on natural photo print, and suggest giving us digital copies of said photo's that will be deleted after a period of time is unacceptable. Yes we may request copies be made to us, but on poor paper that can be (accidentily destroyed). Unlike regular photograph paper which can withstand a little bit of water or moisture damage. Something to think about before making these decisions, as I am sure we all want these changes

to go smoothly and without conflict. Other than this one subject, I applaud you all for your efforts on making a safer environment for individuals in custody, as well as your staff. Thank You & God Bless.
(11/5/2025)

3254. I understand the need to screen mail for incoming contraband.I think IDOC isn't necessarily doing anything wrong with making an effort to keep drugs out of prison.In doing this IDOC is addressing the what,drugs,but not the why.Why are so many individuals in custody dealing with substance abuse issues?One key reason is the very real sense of despair that many feel facing long sentences,with few opportunities to engage in meaningful education and employment opportunities.Due to staffing shortages increasingly we receive little to no opportunities to go to outdoor recreation or to receive any meaningful out of cell time.This has been a major problem at Lawrence and in particular in 8 house.IDOC has a mandate to rehabilitate and restore individuals to useful citizenship if possible but no real process is in place to make this a reality.The classification process is broken.Individuals who have a sincere desire to improve themselves are often times dismissed as being somehow manipulative or are time and again placed in hopeless situations.There is a mental health crisis in IDOC and it should be no surprise to anyone that mentally ill individuals who are not receiving quality care,if care at all,would turn to self medication with illicit substances.Individuals who are not mentally ill but who find themselves surrounded by the seriously mentally ill also begin to feel a ssense of despair.Few can understand the psychological effects of hearing constant ranting on the gallery,of sleep deprevation due to constant noise let alone being housed in close quarters with someone who may be violently mentally ill.All of these things and so many more contribute to the circumstances that can push one to seek an escape through drug use.I do not use drugs.Drug use destroyed my life and I recognize that.Almost every bad decision I made was influenced by drugs and I have no desire to ever return back to that stage in my life.I find my escape in exercise,education,and trying my best to improve everyday.Yet having said that the despair that leads to drug abuse and other destructive behaviors is as real as ever.IDOC and the Illinois General Assembly should spend more time to correcting these larger issues.
(11/5/2025)

3255. I understand the reason as to why we can no longer receive our actual mail that loved ones send to us. I just believe it to be unfair to us that have had nothing to do in the matter of why mail will only be via electronically (11/5/2025)

3256. i understand the reason behind the changes which is due to high volume of drugs entering the jails but ur freeprint photos should still be delivered to us instead of being uploaded or scanned on the tablet. those photos are coming straight from a vendor&arent touching the hands of no one but the vendor. i suggest that we still recieved our freeprint photos but the photos being mailed in from our families should be scanned ir uploaded to the tablets because of the jails concern pertaining to the drugs supposedly entering the facilities (11/5/2025)

3257. I understand the reason for the introduction of the mail scan, but I believe that if you have never been a security risk, you should be given the oppurtunity to keep receiving physical mail. I also believe that the publication review process should be streamlined in a way where if an individual has to go through the process, it is not a lengthy process, and the staff chosen for this

process have no prejudices against certain publications that will color their judgement. (11/5/2025)

3258. I understand the reasons to send all the mail in the tablets now, but in the contrary some family members would like to send birthday cards, father day cards , holiday cards, and so on , a lot of these cards have colors , and textures that bring a more meaningful inpact to who received them, also some people like to display these beautiful cards on the cabinets of their cells to admired them every day , they are a reminder that there is someone in the outside that care , and love them , and are waiting for them. Virtual cards will not bring the same love , and intend that real cards or letters can bring. It is sad that virtual reality is replacing real interactions between us humans, more sad been incarcerated , and the system keep taking away more, and more every day just to make it more difficult to do time away from the people that we love. (11/5/2025)

3259. I understand the reasons you would change the rules on getting mail. Although it is not particularly as special as having the letter directly from your family and friends, if it is for the purposes of keeping people alive and healthy, I am on board. Sometimes we all have to live with the consequences of the very few. God bless you and Thank You for making the change. (11/5/2025)

3260. I understand the safety component behind new mail procedures. I want to be safe from drugs and behavior that comes from people that choose to do drugs. I been gone twenty years. There's hope through the legal process and possible commutatioin I may once be freed from these chains and I will be reunited with what remains of my family. I want to be alive, not deceased due to some junky and his bad decision making in order that they can get "high". My only thing with the mail is that I can no longer keep the orignal hard copy, of say a Christmas card, because of the actions of problematic drug users as those I receive cards from don't partake in that activity. Prison isn't fair, but I do understand the mail scanning protocol. (11/5/2025)

3261. I understand the saftey of it and think its a good thing i just dont like how slow it is to get our mail and some people only write me threw the mail (11/5/2025)

3262. I understand the security concerns and the problems surrounding incoming mail. However, I've been in prison 26 straight years and processing mail in a prompt & timely manner has been and continie to be a major issue in ever prison I've been in. The changes proposed will just add another layer of delaying getting incoming mail. Incoming mail is nack up by weeks & sometimes months. Even legal mail has recently been backed up by two months. That's simply unacceptable and needs to be addressed in the proposed changes. Also, certain mail has sentimental value and if we cannot personally possess the mail then we should jave the option of sending it out at IDOC's expense. (11/5/2025)

3263. I understand the state is trying to stop the flow of drugs into the prisons, but most of it comes through fake legal mail, that lazy C.O's are not checking properly. This should be an easy fix but again the state of Illinois correctional officers are all mostly lazy. I've worked alot of jobs in my life and served in the army and I have never seen such a disorganized cluster fuck of employees, way to many chiefs and no real chiefs to lead. And other dumbass idea after another

after another. What happended? This whole mail thing will not work just cause more headackes for everyone. What happens to the original pictures of my children my family sends me? To they get stored somewhere? Destroyed? Is a creepy mailroom worker taking them home and jacking off to them??? I dont know. Nothing is going to stop the flow of drugs until you get better leadership. (11/5/2025)

3264. I understand the steps yall taking to stop stuff from coming in but everybody dont part take in that stuff so its not far to take it out on everybody (11/5/2025)

3265. I understand the underlined purpose of the change from paper mail to electronic mail, but within those changes (could) come mental distress among individuals in custody that rely on recieving paper mail as a form of comfort and also the smell of a letter from a loved one to keep the memory of certwin person alive so that they dont feel as tho they are alone and forgotten. Also gives the persons involved something to talk about threw letters or phone calls. The electronic mail may also henders persons in restrictive housing/segregation from hearing form their loved ones either late or not at all. I do not think that with the mental health crisis that is accurring in our country and especially in the prison system that this is a beneficial method of doing things. Getting rid of paper mail has not been proven to be the solution of getting drugs from coming into the institutions. Drugs have always come into prisons and it always will. Stopping the flow of paper mail may cut down on the rate of this particular drug but as they say were there is a will there is a way. Mail is not the only way that drugs(even this paper stuff) is getting into the prisons. (11/5/2025)

3266. I totally understand why such a policy may be implemented. However, as we speak, i have been waiting for legal documents for a month and have missed my court deadline to have the papers signed and returned. Are my documents going to be scanned in or will I receive them? Then, in terms of photos, we need our photos, obituaries, etc. The tablets shut off at a certain hour, which means I cannot view my photos during hours I may just need to see what I am fighting so hard to return to, or simply see my mother's face knowing she is in Heaven and hearing her voice tellimg me, "Son, you can make it!" I understand personal letters may be placed on the tablet, but if so, the inmates need an avenue to have their personal letters printed, in the instance that their tablet is defective in some fashion. (11/5/2025)

3267. I think we should be allowed physical mail from our children and loved ones also i dont think that mail should be talen on suspicion alone especially without providing a copy i had two letters from my parents taken and i recieved nothing but a pink slip saying the letters were took cause suspicion of drugs which neither had drugs on them but the biggest issue was i never even was goven a copy of the letters not physical or digital just a ponk slip and an empty envelope and i was very confused about the legality i figured since they were took because suspicion alone i should of been given a copy one way or another letting me know what was in the letters im still very uspet that the only letters i got from my mom and dad were both confiscated and not ever even copied i was given nothing not even an option to submit a grievence or anything to challenge the reasoning so i believe it shoulf be illegal to take mail on suspicion alone especially considerong how subjective the personal biases are on such a call i wouldve really been ok if they took the letters and provided a copy of they thought there was drugs on the paper but to not even provide a copy still seems illegal since they nevwr ptovided any proof nor did they even

attempt to test the paper it was just an individual without any real training on the matter saying they suspected drugs so they stole my mail providing only suspicion no proof and then not even copying the letters so i could at least recieve the info and correspondence on the letter it is absolutley usacceptable to treat people as such it goes against the innocent until proven guilty method of any and all legal systems of this country and i am still outraged they were so easily allowed to do so (11/5/2025)

3268. I think we should go back to getting our mail the regular way. Only because letters have sentimental value and will only be stored on the tablet for six months. Where as the old way i can always go back and read my letters. And also show them and read them back to loved ones on my return home. (11/5/2025)

3269. I THINK WE SHOULD HAVE ARE LETTERS FROM ARE LOVE ONES THATS ALL WE HAVE HAVE TO KEEP IN TOUCH ITS NOT THE SAME AS A SCANED LETTER WE CANT HUG THEM OR BE WITH THEM ITS THE ONLY REAL THING THAT WE HAVE LEFT IN THIS WORLD FROM ARE FAMILY THE MAIL IS WHAT PEPOLE LOOK FOR YOU NEVER MIGHT DIE YOUR LETTERS HOLD MEANING AND SENTAMENTELY VALUE FOR YEARS TO COME WE NEED ARE MAIL FROM ARE FAMILY
(11/5/2025)

3270. I think we should leave the mail the way it was it allows us inmates the connection wit our love ones makes us feel better knowing we are getting mail from the hands n love of our love ones also make the officer stand on ther job if they want to take the drugs out of prison by making the right moves to make it safer wit out taking our connection wit our mail thank you (11/5/2025)

3271. I think we should still be able to get our cards, pictures, and books. As inmate these small things keep us at ease, and also hold sentimental value. I feel there should be other ways that contraband can be seized. We all should not be penalized for things that a smaller percentage of the population are doing. (11/5/2025)

3272. I think we should still be able to recieve actual mail in hand letters and pictures from friends and family. We dont get much from home and its the small things that keeo us connected to our families. (11/5/2025)

3273. I think we should leave the mail the way it was it allows us inmates the connection wit our love ones makes us feel better knowing we are getting mail from the hands n love of our love ones also make the officer stand on ther job if they want to take the drugs out of prison by making the right moves to make it safer wit out taking our connection wit our mail thank you (11/5/2025)

3274. I think you should be able to recieve physical pictures. The fact that our pictures are bow goin to be getting scanned and put on the tablet. Makes wha seems to me is a violation to privacy and a federal offense for viewing ou mail without us present when opening it. Ive not recieved any mail since ive been incarcerated but i would want my pictures being scanned and put on the

tablet. They make a machine that can see/predict different chemicals or substances on any surface. It doesnt cost much but we have money to scan all mail and have a chance we dont get it at all. I think to wrap this up in easy understandable terms, this whole new system of operations is stupid and a way to view into other peoples lives or make them more difficult. (11/5/2025)

3275. I uderstand that combating contraband is of importance to the integrity of a prison. I suppose that some sceurity measures being implemented would serve purpose for a greater good. However, placing restrictions on photographs, obituaries, and or other product of exterme sentimental value is an infringement of the indiviual in custody's humanity. To create a policy that further deepens the divide beyond a physical one between the indvidual and soceity is egregious. I also read in the proposal that restrictions would be placed on whom an individual in custody can order magazines, newspapers and other periodicals from. That hinders a persons mental stimuli. Everyone has different interest and to restict access to books, magazines, newspapers etc. is more of a damaging that the potential of a drug entering the facility. The department of corrections goal is to educate/correct wrong thinking and behavoir and placing the type of restictions desribed would do more damage than a drug ever could. (11/5/2025)

3276. I understand and agree with the mail policy as it applies to mail sent from private citizens. However the memo from IDOC stated that mail from publushers, which by the definition provided included church organizations and ministries, and yet mail from these organizations are being scanned which interferes with among other things bible study correspondence course work, returned graded materials, and certificates. These organizations should be exempt by your own definition. (11/5/2025)

3277. I understand idoc has to take safety measures in order to protect inmates, but i feel the new way of handling our mail is pointless and inconsiderate. There are many states that handle the mail without having to photocopy and then discard our mail 6 months later. There is no reason why idoc cant keep doing what has been done for decades. Mail is already backed up as it is, this just complicates it more. (11/5/2025)

3278. I understand it has been issues with the whole mail system, but i have been waiting on some magazines for two months now. They come from a approved vendor, it should not take that long for me to get my magazines. Thank You. (11/5/2025)

3279. I understand not wanting drugs or contraband coming in your faciity but can /will/shouldn't you hire decent workers in the mailroom?! Even your clinical service counselors comment on how ""Lamar"" in the mailroom here at logan c-c "" gets in no kind of hurry"". I have mail and birthday cards from my children and grandchildren and also my church mailed in august and september that ive not received!!!! Also i requested copies of the cards i actually did receive and have heard nor received nothing. (11/5/2025)

3280. I understand safety and security,but legal materials not from an attorney,instead from family, and photos get caught up in this program change. I have sent to the mailroom for the materials that included no correspondence,it was legal materials only and received no response. Photograph paper cannot absorb any materials and retain the exposure. This should be considered,as it is,it is heavy handed and irreversible harm is done when these are lost/destroyed.

Thank you for your consideration. (11/5/2025)

3281. I understand that in todays society people are getting more creative in getting things into the prison and the mail being one point of entry. I do agree with the scanning in the mail but with that said it needs to be done on a timely process. It is our right to get it in a timely fashion. Withholding the mail for weeks at a time because of lack of staff effects our federal rights im sure in some way.
(11/5/2025)

3282. I understand that the department is trying to cut down on the drugs being sent inside but the fact that you guys dont send the letters or cards back is crazy. I want to cherish those small memories when i get out but i cant because i dont recieve the actual card or letter and you guys throw them away after so long. I understand but why should i have to suffer because someone else wanna smoke? (11/5/2025)

3283. I understand that the IDOC is scanning all of our mail now. My issue is what happens to our original mail documents once it is scanned and sent to us. IDOC sent out a memo stating that our original mail documents will be stored for up to six months and then it will be destroyed. I have a major issue with that. Having the actual card, letter or photo that my family sent is a keepsake that I do not just want destroyed. I am serving 30 years and I have been incarcerated for 18 years so far. I have kept all of my cards, letters and photos my family has sent me. My mom passed away in 2017 and now possessing the actual cards and letters she sent me has a very sentimental feeling to me. It is extremely important for me to keep the actual mail that my family sent in to me. I don't want photos, cards, and letters just being destroyed. I understand that I can't have the actual docukents, and copies of them just are not the same, but I should be able to have the originals mailed home at my cost or have them picked up at a visit when one of my family members comes. The mailroom can simply take the original mail documents to the visiting room and bag them up and they can be turned over to a family member at an in person visit. They allow us to send stuff out at visits all the time and we should have the option to do this too with our original mail documents that we are not allowed to have. I would never have access to these documents if handled correctly by staff and I would still be able to keep these where a family member can take them home for me and store them for me until I am released. The IDOC can avoid court costs and proceedings if they will just allow this practice to happen. I will file in court to object to the IDOC destroying our original mail documents after a period of time and there is already precedent in the courts regarding this manner. The northern district of Indiana noted that "prisoners' mail there was not simply destroyed once copies were made and provided, but were presumably held in their property until release." See Redman, Supra, at page 8. The court relied upon Koger v. Dart, 950 F.3d 971 (7th Cir. 2020), where the seventh circuit court of appeals for the United States held that prisoners possess a due process "property interest" under the 14th amendment of the United States constitution in items received through the mail, and, therefore, a prisoner is "entitled to ship" the items out prior to release or "reclaim them from the prison at the end of his confinement." Dart, 950 F. 3d at 975-76. In short, inmates do not have a 1st ammendment possessory right to the original mail sent to them, but they do have a 14th amendment property interest right to the ultimate determination concerning its disposition. Please allow us one of these three options. One, have the original mail mailed out at our expense, two, have the original mail picked up at a visit, or three, have the original mail stored and given

back to us at our release date. Another issue that I have is that Centralia C.C. does not allow us to receive hardcover books. These new rules that you posted state that we are allowed hardcover books from publishers but for some reason, Centralia does not adhere to this. Please make this a strict rule that is adhered to by all of the facilities in the IDOC, so it is not up to each prison to decide their own interpretation. Also, please allow places like free prints and other on-line photo processing places to send in photos that we are directly allowed to get, so they don't have to be scanned or copied. This saves both time and money for the IDOC. Treat these companies as if they were a publisher. Lastly, the time in which copies of our mail being made free of charge has to be greatly sped up. My daughter sent me 50 photos over a month ago and I immediately put in a print request to the mail room at Centralia and I am still waiting to get my photos because the mail room said they are still awaiting for more instruction on this matter. In conclusion, these are my concerns with this whole new mail scanning process. I understand why the IDOC is doing this for everyone's safety, but it is my sincere hope that you will consider the options that I have outlined here for you and hopefully put them into the new directives regarding the mail scanning process. I hope to hear back from you and I hope all of what I typed out was not just ignored. Thank you for your time. (11/5/2025)

3284. I understand that this is intended to stop certain things from entering the jails, prisons but alot of us would like to have copies of our letters or of any recreational uses that we use to communicat like pen pals for examples the least you guys can do is make every facility make copies of these things and give them to use because you never know who might end up with something that belongs to you on there tablet or what might malfunction or for example i am being helped by my facility to obtain my records of my diploma from cook county jail so i may be credited time for it and released but this is making it hard for me to show these people the issues i am having with this retrieval processe due to the fact i cant take my tablet to the right personel to show them what i have been sent back in the mail. (11/5/2025)

3285. I understand that uts the departments duty tonpeotect those that not only work for ISOC but rhise that are incarcerated also, but it always seems as though most of the population is always puniahed for the acts of the few offenders that cause trouble, but it is not the same when thise that are emplyied within the department of corrections. (11/5/2025)

3286. I understand that you have a big problom with drugs coming in by mail. An i dont care to much about people i dont know reading my in coming mail. I see it like this the mail room officers should be doing this job. They dont do that much anyway! Also you need to take a look at the officers who bring things into inmates thats another worry for you. But i see it like this, you will never be able to stop something that you started from coming in here. Feel bad for you!! (11/5/2025)

3287. I understand that you want to keep all of us safe from drugs coming in through the mail but at the same time its taken longer for us to receive our mail and when we ask for copies of our pictures or coloring pages our kids send us we dont get them. Ive been waiting for almost a month for copies of pictures that was sent to me and to this day i still havnt got them. Then these places like freeprints, shutterfly and inkcards its a hit or miss on if we get the stuff from these publications that only print card and photos. The process with the mail at this time is so frustrating. I feel like there needs to be a easier and better way then the way it is now.

(11/5/2025)

3288. I understand that, unfortunately, inmates have taken advantage of the mail system. I myself do not get a lot of mail anyway, but I have seen how disappointed getting "scanned" letters has been for a lot of the women here. Fortunately, pictures are still comming to us as pictures which makes people happy. I also like recieving cards from my family, real cards. Theres something special being able to hold something in my hand and close to my heart that has come special from a loved one. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to give my own opinion on this situation. (11/5/2025)

3289. I understand the changes within the mail system due to drugs that could possibly be distributed. My only issue when it comes to certain mail (phsyical letters and/or phsyical pictures) that i may recieve from my family or friend are that once mail is downloaded to my tablet its only available for 6 months , as far as i understand. Some cards , letters and/or pictures hold sentamental value and im away from my family so a picture might be something i want to hold on to. Or a letter , for a example from a loved one who has died thats something i may want to hold on to , could be my last communications with that person. I just feel like allowing me to only be able to keep mail that was sent to me for 6 months isnt legal . This is mail sent via US Postal , which would be my personal belongings. Maybe it would be fair to send a phsyical copy of the actual letter or photo. Mail that im unable to recieve i should be able to request a copy of it that way id phsyically have it and it wont disappear in 6 months. (11/5/2025)

3290. I understand the departments concern for our saftey and theres, but there are certain things that for some of us going home soon we may need the origanal copies of concerning information such as housing or even for jobs. It is my hope that we should have the ability for some of those things to be put in a file or something that way we can take them with us apon release. (11/5/2025)

3291. I understand the desire to reduce or illiminate drugs and contraband in prisons. I have to stress there is way to many goal size loopholes in this proposed law. There needs to be a set amount of time from reciept of mail to when it must be on my tablet leaving this standard open is going to be abused. There also needs to be a quality standard for images not just in readability but in structural such as completeness of image and if image of letter or picture or any item is messed up there needs to be a reporting standard along with a legally binding guality and timelyness standard. These two should be a base line for any agreement or proposed legislation. There should also be financial and legal penalties for not meeting these timely issues and quality issues. There need to be a check on ensuring the mail goes to the right person and if messed up needs again to be financial and legal reprocussions. There should be standards put into law as to who can process mail and regulations for whatever company is going to handle my constutionally protected right. Based on other states handling of this issue we should learn from there mistakes and tighten tge wording of this law to ensure that this state sets tge standard instead of becoming another statistic. We have a chance to save lives as well as ensure constitutional right are protected an provided in a timely manner. This should mean that mail should never be more than one week after deliver to institution and its contents should be fully legible just as if i had recieved the physical mail. There should also be a safe guard legally bound ensuring that i am the only one who gets my mail such as a review officer and a code for me to

open mail if i see its not mine again there should be a reporting mechanism that is effective and ensures action is taken immediatly to rectify problem. A again urge all of you to please review this law rule change the loopholes are far to large please help our state to set the standard not to just be another statistic locked in endless court battles. Once this is implemeted it will harm everyone of those in your trust please dont pass or inact if it cant or wont be fixed. Thank you (11/5/2025)

3292. I understand the drug issue is a problem so the scanning of mail isnt a big issue, i feel like now that the mail is scanned to prevent 'substances' being sent in & we dobt retain the original document that they should lift the ban of colored pencils & stuff like that because my kids are wanting to send me stuff they draw at school & it hurts to tell them no because of this paticular ban. Also i feel like C-grade individuals should get atleast 1 call a month i understand they got in trouble so they have to accept the disciplinary results but most of these people incarcerated have children & also we have attorneys we need to call even if we only get allowed 1 10 minute call its better than NOT being able to hear our kids voices & stuf like that. (11/5/2025)

3293. I understand the mail issues but if its a letter say from my mother ot any of my kids i would like to receive it not be looking at it on a tablet scan it for any kind of drugs is fine but if nothing is found i personaly want my letters and pictures (11/5/2025)

3294. I think we should be allowed to recieve or mail regardless of any circumstances (11/5/2025)

3295. I think we should get anything that have something to do with freedom of infomation coming from the police department when it comes to our mail. (11/5/2025)

3296. I think we should get our actual pictures because whats really happening with our real pictures we dont know an plus the pictures only last 6 months on the tablet that cost money for our family to keep sending the same pictures every 6 months please change it back enjoy your day (11/5/2025)

3297. I think we should get our mail faster if there just scanning it it shouldnt take the mail room weeks to do anything the post office gets things done in a day with millions of people how cant IDOC do it in there little facilitys with less then 1500 people in it? (11/5/2025)

3298. I think we should still recieve court and child support mail (11/5/2025)

3299. What is the reason for the change?
Will inmates recive photos and mail apon release? (11/6/2025)

3300. In a way I think its a good idea, but in reality it takes FOREVER to get your mail and then if you want copies of the mail it takes even longer. I think that they need to find a better way to do the mail. (11/7/2025)

3301. In my personal opinion i can unserstand why the mail has to go through a screening process. What i don't understand is why the pictures that come from a company, in the company

envelope have to be screened i personally feel that the only peoples mail that should be screened are people who have had mail flagged before. Its unfair to the people who are not trying to get contraban and jus want their family corrispondence mail we already cant get pictures from our children an thats aggravating (11/7/2025)

3302. In no way should the jail have tge rightvto take my mail and put it on a screen like my picturue or letters ect!!! First off this tablet does'nt belong to me its state owned so they can take this at any time two any time this device can go out so that put use in a situation that come to if we receive photo of loveones who pass away you take the obituary and my original piturues andbsendy acopy and trash the first copy is wrong we can never get those back. (11/7/2025)

3303. It appears that i.d.o.c skirted around administrative directives concerning notice and simply implimented these changes and is now doing patch work to make it seem like due process was given to the inmates affected by these changes. I am not being given my mail in a timely manner , nor am i aware of any process for having my original photographs returned to the friend / family member that sent them to me. Lastly , my banking information is being compromised by allowing any and everybody handle my personal information. (11/7/2025)

3304. It doesnt matter to me i dont mess with the K2,but will say that those certain officials want to have their hands in the bag.Tired of being the middle man,so since theyre not getting any money,so in order to be the middle person again they need to make up complaints and excuses about why theyre feelin a certain way.And it worked for the entire IDOC.Officials wanted control on what comes thru or not.Its self explainatory (11/7/2025)

3305. It feels like we are gettin the mail late. but it also help with having less stuff. (11/7/2025)

3306. It is already over a month delay on our mail so adding another task to a job that the officers can barely do already will hurt everyone involved (11/7/2025)

3307. It is inconvenient especially if you would like physical copies of your mail. Request for this go unanswered (11/7/2025)

3308. It is things like this that take the humanity out of dealing with other humans. (11/7/2025)

3309. It Takes Joy Out Of The Letters Or Pictures If We Cannot Recieve These From Our Love Ones. Makes Incarceration Even More Harder (11/7/2025)

3310. It will make thins safer but less oersonal on things like xards and pictures from our families (11/7/2025)

3311. It's not ideal that we can't rely on our families to assist in the mailing process, because delivery companies have been known to send the wrong product to customers. (11/7/2025)

3312. It's ok for photo copy but please send me my organial copy. (11/7/2025)

3313. Its smart about mail but sucks you have to buy all books from publisher amozon is way

cheaper (11/7/2025)

3314. Look, on one hand, I get it. On the other hand, why am I being punished because of other people's mess-ups? Because this is a punishment. I will say, still allowing us to order from Edward Hamilton and get books sent in from legit sources was a GOOD MOVE in terms of this emergency amendmentâ€¦ but the compliance with the rest of the amendment has been a s--- show in my facility. Some of us have 30 pieces of digital mail that all have the file name "unknown" - Good luck sifting through that to find the letter you want. - Nothing has been printed when requested, they tell us, in a grievance response that they're not doing it until an outside contractor for the printing is secured. That's not even in the amendment. I personally had a piece scanned with the page turned so I lost part of the page, it's not been redone or printedâ€¦ I requested to have the originals sent home at my expense but I'm told, "can not get originals." Seriously? So my property is going to be destroyed without my authorization? the A.D.'s just don't matter? This is a reactionary measure put into play far too hastily that has put a lot of undue burden on facity mail rooms, who already have a tough enough job. - I understand the need to control the B.S - i don't want to be around the crap, either and I don't think this is the way to combat it. Punishing everyone isn't going to get you what you wantâ€¦ also, think about this, my Grandmother is very old, what happens to the last letter I get from her? That's emotional sentimental stuff for me. - We can't log into our tablets between midnight and six a.m. -I can't even read my own mail during that time. (11/7/2025)

3315. Mail being put on tablets how are we to get drawingsor have the mail when we leave. Some of us that are in custdy might want a chance to have access to our mail after were released. If it is put on our tablet what are we to do when we released (11/7/2025)

3316. Mail is delayed due to this new way of mail due to so called contraband being sent through mail I feel like its terrible i ended up missing my deadline for my appeal and legal court situation due to the delay of mail and it being on the tablets witch resulted in my appeal that i payed for and was working on to be dismissed now im unable to even do the appeal process because its to late i get it dumbasses sent contraband through mail but they had scanners and devices to detect the stuff some of the stuff people get in prison dont just come from the â€œemail"" there are officers im sure bring inmates things or some inmates may have family on visits bring in things or have drones flown over the prisons at night dropping whatever in the yards or places they have access to some chemicals or things maybe are even provided in here unknowingly they just blame the mail for everything officers fake exposure to stuff just to get bills and rules passed inmates that are exposed should be punshied feel like the mail we always should have with no delay that there still is with it being on tablets the inmates in segregation dont have access to their tablets and some people have weeks or months in seg with no way to acesses their mail or check to see if they even gotten any i feel like phone calls even on grade restrctions u should still at least get 1 call a week or month some people mite not have all the same acess to ways to reach out to loved ones i mean the way the mail is it has its pros and cons (11/7/2025)

3317. Maybe allow personal family photos to come threw so it is on picture paper not computer paper. Thanks for allowing me to give a comment to maybe help (11/7/2025)

3318. Most substances are comming from med line, people are smoking mental helh meds.he scaning of our mail will stop nothing and only make more work for staff and delay our mail. (11/7/2025)

3319. My biggest concern is the photos sent in to the facility by our loved ones and being scanned to the tablet and after 6 months, or whatever the amount of time IDOC allows the pictures to remain on the tablet before the pictures are taken off, I completely oppose that because what if I want those pictures? Do I now have to pay to print them on paper? What if my family sends me a lot of pictures, that can get expensive. Paper also is not as durable as actual pictures so if I have a lot of time that can be an issue. I actually have a 2038 outdate. Why cant we get our pictures if the picures are sent directly from a company? Pictures help with rehabilitation because every time I look at my kids pictures they serve to motivate me to be better and that motivates me to study and learn more. I hope there can be a verification process of pictures being sent directly from the company to the facility. (11/7/2025)

3320. Not a good idea at all espically as the mail room here at big muddy is weeks behind most of the time an since ive been here in june ive only gotten one piece of mail they lost all my other mail also inmates have been recieving other inmates mail on their tablets mailroom making mistakes putting other peoples info into other inmates hands when they cant remove it from the tablet putting people at risk also for fact other inmates have gotten other inmates photos onntheir tablets rhat wasnt their family (11/7/2025)

3321. Not being able to recieve the physical letters from my kids and spouse takes away from the feeling! Yes, it feels good to be able to read it off the tablet but its not the the same as being able to wake up, grab a letter or picture my kids have drawn from the shelf and lay there in the moment. In my opinion it would be better if the facility tested the mail for WHATEVER it is there searching for and then give us our original mail. It would take the same amount of time, if not LESS than it is for the prison to copy and upload the letters. (11/7/2025)

3322. Not sure if me sumitting this second reply will delete my first response but my main concern about the new policys for mail is that i wont be able to get my original family pictures which have sentimental attachment to them.
it sucks that the few mess it up for the rest... Im willing to talk to yall about certain inmates that sell " O " not sure what good that would do but maybe by giving up 2-4 people that are known to have it, it would reduce the amount of distrubution enough to not implement these new rules ? Not sure if IA reads these or if i have to summit a request slip for it.
(11/7/2025)

3323. Oct 10 th was a very sad day but it helps for us to try and move better as we grow each day. Some days are harder than the other but lets put our best foot foward and make it happen. (11/7/2025)

3324. On October 3, 2025 I received a birthday from my 84 year old mother. The card was never delivered to my cell. Yet the card was scanned and placed on my tablet. You can not even read every contained within the card. The tablet is too small. I have tried looking at the card from every direction and I can not read all the words contained within the card. So scanning

certain cards and books,.even pictures don't work. And every one isn't trying to smuggle drugs into the institution. There needs to be another solution. Using dogs or TSA scanning methods used at the air ports. Even bring charges against the individual people receiving the drugs. Ã€nd charge those that get caught smoking or using drugs in the Illinois department of correction. Five extra years for smoking or using drugs if you get caught. 15 years if you get caught with the drugs. And for individual getting caught serving already long sentences, a life time band from receiving any more mail. Even for smokers. Scan all of their mail and remove their mail privileges. Breath test, and blood test. Stop playing get taugh on drug sellers and drug users. Don't punish those of us who do not use drugs taking our Constitutional Civil Rights Away from us. I do not agree with a lot of things the President Donald J. Trump, says and does, but I absolutely support his mession to stop drugs from coming into this country. Even blowing up drug boats to send a message to other nations, that drugs will not be allowed into the United States. Drugs are destroying this Country. Even legal drugs and the Medications being given to prisoner. Some of which have generational drug addiction. Drugs destroy my family and my life. As well as my community. I've seen and wit essed first hand the devestating effects of drugs in my own life as well as the life of others. And the need to get drugs is the number killer in the Communties all accross this nation. Don't get taught on people addicted to drug who commit crimes. Get taught on drug sellers and drug dealers, and those trying to send drugs into the Prison system, the sellers, and people bring drugs into this country. Do that and things will change. More drug testing through blood,and lab urine test. Charge those who use drugs in prison, and those who sell drugs. Offer good time and resentencing for prisoner reporting people selling drugs. Make it so tough for drug dealers and drug users, that no person in their mind would want to take the chance to get caught. Finally open up a prison where no mail is allowed only scanned and copied legal mail. However copy the legal mail in the presence of the men in custody. Only books, and mail sent directly from legal companies should be allowed but even then this mail should be tested. I will be challenging my rights to receive my mail, in Federal Court, once I get enough scanned mail to make a case. Respectfully, RGM. Shalom! (11/7/2025)

3325. People think mail scanning is just as good as physical mail but it only adds issues and doesnt resolve any of the problems. Data shows that in other states it has been implemented it has not stopped the contraband/overdose issue. It has made mail take much longer to receive. The quality of scanned mail is low. The tablets are not set up for mail. All of my mail has the same title of ""unknown"" and has no date. I must go through each one to find my pictures. The pictures are pixelated. The tablet is set up so i cannot access my mail if i cannot access wifi due to the short period of 5hours free login. If i have no signal in my cell (which i dont) i cannot access my mail on a lockdown. If i want to look at my pictures when i wake up at night from a nightmare or panic attack i cant due to tablet being restricted after midnite. It further limits my ability to do artwork because i am unable to get reference materials. Art and my photos are coping skills i cant access due to resrictions on the tablet and low quality of scans of the mail.I have asked for copies of my mail over 3 weeks ago and have had no response. I am also aware that the quality of the printed mail will be equal or worse than the image of the scan and the scanned image is poor quality whilr i havent gotten my copies yet i know they will not be any better.This mailscanning is not being done on any evidence based data or research. Idoc is doing this with no real thought to the harm it is causing. Idoc should address the issues first and have the problems fixed before jumping to a perminent change that doesnt fix or address the problem

of contraband and further causes unnecassary problems. (11/7/2025)

3326. Pinckneyville correctional center (IDOC) is the only Prison that don't care how springfield or there rules when it come to Pinckneyville the c/o's only give a damn about them selfs and how they run this Prison, no one can tell them anything in springfield how to run their joint, I put this message in hear because we (individual in custody) really need help dealing with this Prison and its health care because we are dead. Help. (11/7/2025)

3327. Putting mail on the tablet is fine but we should get to recive our photos some of us are in prison for a long time and six months is not enough time to have photos on the tablet.... (11/7/2025)

3328. Real, physical mail is one of incarcerates individuals only connections to the outside world. Receiving and holding a physical letter or card is one of the highlights of our day. Seeing a birthday, Christmas or other card on a tablet screen feels so impersonal - can you imagine receving a card on a screen? As humans, just as you are, just because we are incarcerated we should not lose that physical mail and connection to our loved ones in the world.
Okay, contraband does enter the facility SOMEHOW but, with all due respect, IDOC has not provided ANY proof that it is entering ONLY through inmate mail while ignoring the other possible sources of contraband, such as security, health care, vendors and other staff. While you might not think so, volunteers, such as religious volunteers could be a source too!
Furthermore, Iâ€™ve heard that maybe 1% possibly up to 5% of mail has contraband in it (again IDOC has never provided any proof, research, studies, etc. that mail is the only source) so only those individuals who ARE caught with contraband should be punished (i.e. mail restrictions or scanned) not the 95-99% of individuals, such as myself, who DO NOT have contraband in our mail. Punishing everyone by replacing our physical mail with scanned mail to supposedly stop the 1-5% of mail that has contraband in it is not a way to reward the vast majority of individuals who follow the rules.
Additionally, the expense of scanning mail to stop such a small percentage of mail that allegedly has contraband in it could be much better spent on rehabilitation, drug addiction treatment, education (i.e. Masterâ€™s degree programs) and so forth - all things BENEFIT individuals and reward them for good behavior rather than constantly taking away things.
Also, Administrative Directive 05.02.151 â€œMail Procedures for Individuals in Custodyâ€ effective 6/1/2023 Â§ II. Procedure, H. Incoming Mail, 2. states â€œAll incoming non privileged mailâ€¦ shall be opened and inspected for contabandâ€ so this inspection process SHOULD catch and stop all contraband entering the facility. In other words, if contraband is still entering the facility, allegedly only through individualâ€™s mail, with all due respect, that means mailroom staff are essentially allowing it in because they are not doing their job of inspecting, finding and stopping contraband from entering the facility. We should all not be punished by having our original, physical mail taken away from us, replaced by scanned mail because mailroom staff apparently arenâ€™t doing their job of finding and stopping contraband from entering the facility.
Also, Iâ€™ve read numerous articles and research - such as from www.prisonpolicy.org - that shows that drug use in states that initiated mail scanning DID NOT reduce contraband from entering facilities. In fact, in some cases it increased after mail scanning was introduced, showing that this technique is both ineffective and proving that contraband enters through

sources OTHER than mail - such as all staff, vendors, volunteers, etc. who enter the prison. Original, physical mail is a critical connection to the outside world, that isnâ€™t the same when seen on a tablet screen. Attempting to stop the small percentage (1-5%) of mail that allegedly has contraband in it, unfairly punishes the 95-99% of individualsâ€™ whose mail DOES NOT have contraband in it and is a waste of limited financial resources that could be better spent elsewhere. Please donâ€™t replace our original, physical mail with scanned mail - it wont elimimate the problem, it is an ineffective use of funds for limited to no returns (i.e. not eliminating contraband in prisons) and punishes the vast majority of individuals who follow the rules whose mail does not have contraband in it. Initiate programs that reward us for good behavior rather than punishing us all for the behaviors of a few irresponsible individuals who behave inappropriately. (11/7/2025)

3329. Some things a very sentimental and should have the option to be saved or sent home as like a letter from my grandma that passed could mean everything to me and losing it would be devastating and for people that have alot of time or life should be able to go through a process to get those thing giving sentiment value written out to an advisor who oversees this (11/7/2025)

3330. The change in mail is no good due to the facts my legal mail is not being open in front of me but is being open then posted on my tablet. By law my legal mail us suppose to be open un front of me & not read by anybody but me which is not being done due to the change of the mail handling rules. The mail need to go back to how it was the new change is not working & only interfere with legal situation & compermise legal work done right...
(11/7/2025)

3331. The change in the mailing services is good but why not just allow our familes to be able to send us pictures directly to our tablets. It cost our families money to send us the pictures & then we cant even physically have them. Also, if everything is going to be electronically given to us...then the delivery time shouldnt be that long. There only checking for drugs & it should be easily copied & forwarded to us so that we wont be in suspence with where our mail is at. (11/7/2025)

3332. The changes are going to do nothing in addressing the drug epidemic occuring here. Drugs are still readily available and being smoked constantly. Just going to cause more problems and law suits (11/7/2025)

3333. The changes made to the mail process in idoc has made it to were the mail being recieved by a inmate disappears within 6 months and that impacts people recieving legal mail that is needed to be kept and on hand but by the mail process changing it causes it to be removed from your access after a certain amount of time (11/7/2025)

3334. The changes to the mail system is an unfare one.Because it would be more expensive to the deparmtment because they have to print all document sent to me from my love ones. (11/7/2025)

3335. The digital mail isnt working an is taking to long to recieve from my loved ones I feel like this is a burden on people incarcerated cause the process is taking much longer an its just to

difficult to reapond an recieve mail in a timley matter making it hard on us an the sender to communicate I hope their is some resolve with this situation an we can go back to recieving are mail by paper to keep some normalcy for people incarcerated. (11/7/2025)

3336. The electronic, copying, and incoming mail processing is horrible, i just lost a loveone and they're telling me that, if i was to have an obituary send in, that will be placed on my tablet, that's not acceptable! Then they're saying that it will be removed from my tablet in six months, so what happens to the original? Them are memories of my family and is something that needs to be tangible not on a video screen... (11/7/2025)

3337. The fact we cannot get letters or pictures is nt okay this is nt keepimh families conmecte (11/7/2025)

3338. The health care in prison what is health care it is like everyone says why complain know body cares know body listens we have to waite until we get out to see a real doctor or a real nurse so yes we need health care when we get out (11/7/2025)

3339. The mail being scanned are mail from entities like attorney generals offices, circuit court clerks, states attorneys offices instead of it coming to us to use for court purposes they are being scanned and denied copies of what was scanned which is derailing lawsuits and criminal court processes even though this mail is not considered legal mail per se it is needed or regarding court processes and court actions. This is a big issue needs to be fixed maybe the idoc can broaden what they consider legal mail to include mail from court clerks as its obvious the only mail would be court related an individual in custody would receive for instance my court transcripts were scanned and withheld from me for over 3 weeks and other court related material. This needs to be fixed. (11/7/2025)

3340. The mail has become a inconvience by being allowed on the tablet necause I was not allowed to physically hold my mail, smell the perfume that was sprayed on there for me and where the does the original copy go after I recieve it. Some of my letters are cut off and I can not read the whole thing. The mail system has not improved but gotten worse. (11/7/2025)

3341. The mail situation in this prison is rediculous. It takes far to long to receive regular mail let alone have to do all the extra work to copy everything. Our pictures have to je on the tablet and who wants to pull the tablet out to look at your pictures. This is a real inconvienance to everyone. (11/7/2025)

3342. The mail system needs to get on one acore because i understand the have to protect their staff,but stuff gets inside our institutionnot just through mail.We are a women's facility and pictures and actual letters from our children and grandchildren gives us hope and lasting memories because it will be all they have to connect them to their family.Also,we have been allowed to order cards for years so we could send to our loved ones because they dont sell them on commissary and when they did we where limited to the amount we where avle to purchase.So with me mentioning that why are they taking that away from us where we order straight from a company?We got stripped of our right when we git locked up now they are trying to strip us of showing love through our mail,cards,and pictures. (11/7/2025)

3343. The mailing system does need changes to promote safety and change in our lives, as well as the officers and staff of the facilities. I have not had difficulty with the mailin system, yet. (11/7/2025)

3344. The new mail system is not fair to all the individuals in custody that do not partake in whatever activities that are taking place when it comes to drugs entering the facility. Drugs have been coming into to the prison system since the prisons hav been open whether they are illegal or legal (prescription) drugs. All of my intimate correspondence with my wife is being read although i am not on the radar for anything illegal, it takes a whole month for a leeter to be processed that is only 2 hours away. The quality of the scan is poor and its just not the same mentally or emotionally for either of us (her or me). She has to keep asking " did you get my letter yet?", and my response is no! Then our mail is kept for what 6 months? Then i have to write a request to recieve a photo copy of the mail which may take who knows how long. Things like letters are kept and shared once a person is released from prison and now thhat is also taken away. There should be a better system in place to detect any foreign substance such as drugs on paper! I hope that things will change for those who will be incarcerated after i am gone. Be ause this is not fair to any of us. (11/7/2025)

3345. The only problem I have with the way the mail is done now is not being able to get the cards and photos from my family. (11/7/2025)

3346. The over sight is okay, however its not far to the rest of the popluation who doesn't get involved in those things. (11/7/2025)

3347. The paper that was wrote on, has GREAT sentamental value to me! And i cant even have it saved....by having it sent to family members! (11/7/2025)

3348. the pictures are being scanned in with water marks cause staff are not knowing to allow scanner to dry after wipping it off. also the light is dark in pictures. (11/7/2025)

3349. The problem with the mail policy is that it does not take into consideration the sizable sentences that some people are given, or what type of mail it is. For instance, if a person's grandmother's obituary is sent, the individual in custody will only have access to it for 6 months at the most, or ask for a poor quality substitution on printed regular paper. Also, the original copy would be destroyed, instead of allowing the person the right to send it somewhere else, which is a violation of the personal property procedures the department already uses. It is completly inhumane and unethical to do this to someone with a long sentence, or even a short one. (11/7/2025)

3350. There is a memo that state that the mail that comes in before 30 of sept. Will be given to the prisoner but this is not the case here at logan corr. K-13 base its all being scanned in ,,,,,,,,the second issue is that the mail to be scanned in is over 2 months behind in scanning as of today .....this needs to be fixed as prisoners like my self that are short as i have less than 42 days left (11/7/2025)

3351. They are ok, as long as I can get my Manga and Light Novels in. Is that going to be a problem? Because alot of them will have Mature content. (11/7/2025)

3352. To Whom it may concern,
I do not agree with puposed changes to the mail rules and regulations. Receiving physical mail and pictures from my family and friends helps me stay encouraged while encarcerated. This has been the hardest trial of my life (I didnt get in trouble with the law until age 38) and it means a lot to me when i receive a card from a family member or friend and am able to open it, hold it in my hands and read it. I believe the IDOC should accept the help that the Ferternal Order of Police has been offering with the mail drug situation. Punishing all of us because of the behavior of a few has been a long on-going problem of incarceration across our great country. We are not all the same and should be seen as individuals, each of us has a different journey and circumstance. It is Novermber 7th, 2025 and within the last week i received my first two pieces of mail on the tablet, both were from late September. Please help us and stay with the old system. Please do not approve theses amendments to the mail rules. Please accept help from the F.O.P. so we can receive our physical mail in a timely manner. Thank you for your consideration. Charles Hightower - Y52191 (11/7/2025)

3353. We as inmates who's mail it is in first place, shouldn't have to wait a period of 6 months to wait for mail on tablet to delete,we should be able to have function on tablet to delete mail of ours as we please or request it be deleted asap by staff and to request physical copies be deleted when we want especially legal mail that staff opens up when they shouldnt have,just like now,i sent out legal mail and it came back return to sender mail room openedmy mail scanned it put it on my tablet where it shouldnt be,doesnt matter its return to sender,its legal mail still that i sent out. (11/7/2025)

3354. Well i say go back in history and see what they done in the 90's to help stop drugs coming in if you go to A & E Richer speack or you tube they got a vieod aslo this is the 21 frist cencerty i think its called board patorll go there see there viodes take ideas from them and from others prions ask inmates opiopns ones dont use see there oipoon that show on nat geo were them people stop contrabnd coing in us go there to chager with new case mostly when ppl die find who sold it chager him muder or drug induce homiced (11/7/2025)

3355. Well the idoc had a stop on that mail copying and i still have not got mail and when i did they stay they do not make copy of your mail. So all they say about the mail the stuff must be bring it in with there food that my not get check.and the same issue is still going on as of today.so theail is not the issue. (11/7/2025)

3356. Well the mail on the tablet is just fine. But what if in some cases we need a hardcopy of what was sent? Also why is the mail taking over 30 day just to get your mail. It shouldn't take this long to get mail. These are my true problems with the new mail scan system. (11/7/2025)

3357. When it comes to the new mailing system. Me and my fellow incarcerated individuals in custody do not like it. All we have to truly look forward to is our physical pieces of mail an pictures. The facility can barely give us our mail on time as it is and now its taking months to get mail. You have women who have children who look forward to receiving the original physical

copy of mail from their children. I feel like this new system is unconstitutional and puts a damper on our incarceration. (11/7/2025)

3358. When staff pass out the mail, we give them our number. The last chance to make sure the mail finds the right person, after the mail room sends it to the wrong person via wrong cell number. This happens often. C/o shows up at the door reading a name of someone whos not been in the cell in over a year if ever. (11/7/2025)

3359. When we rolled out tablets, there was an application available for recieving pictures digitally. Under the new mail rules it seems very inefficient for a family member to have to print out pictures to send to the prison to then have those pictures scanned. Can we not set up the system sothat family cab email in pictures, the system or staff can approve them and then upload them to the tablet (11/7/2025)

3360. Why do everybody gots to pay for everybody worng doing because i will like to have my pictures plus what happy to the pictures when they scad it when do they send it home because i ask to send my pictures home snd they didn't so what now (11/7/2025)

3361. This rule change is ridiculous and burdensome,.FIRST AND FOREMOST,.we have rights to access the courts and springfield has all mail to and from the Clerk of the court deemed as Non Legal mail,.this creates an impediment to obtaining COURT ORDERS as the clerk of the court is charged with mailing prisoners the Judges Orders,.the Prisons are not allowing the Mail from the Clerk to be delivered as LEGAL MAIL, this makes the legal mail from the clerk go through the regular mail which is scanned and uploaded to the tablet,.these court Orders Must be delivered to the Prisoner in order for the prisoners to file Motions in response and attach said Court Orders as exhibits in a responsive Motion. More importantly,.prisoners have a right to file Clemency and Personal letters of support must be included in a prisoners Clemency petition,.these letters are.not being COPIED AND SENT TO THE PRISONERS IN ORDER TO ATTACH TO THE CLEMENCY PETITIONS,.this is a clear violation of my access to the Courts and Judicial branch of goverment via Clemency. This needs to change and be brought to springfields attention,.the tablet does not have request to print capabilities that can be accessed through the law library and it should,.all mail should be able to be immediately copied by prisoners for these legal reasons. (11/13/2025)

3362. I believe its not fair to put our mail onto a telivised screen giving them the power to play and lose our mail in the same process of scanning too much mail in one day even with pictures coming from the company its self you still put onto the tablets when that wasnt the agreement to the mail scanning process we all know the reasons of why there doing it but its not us who's bringing it in have yall ever sat and thought about it just as much dirt we do or did to get it in the officers do to cause money is the rule of all evil everybody wants a part (11/14/2025)

3363. I dont agree because we are losing memories and the state is naking everybody suffer because something they claim they can stop. Why is it our fault? Its a federal law to recieve your mail how and why are you guys taking our rights away?. (11/14/2025)

3364. I dont like the way the person in the mail room is not sending us all our photos thin once

we get them there is more photos that has not bee scaned!! (11/14/2025)

3365. I dont think changing the mail is gonna solve anything or fix a drug problem the only thing itll do is make more issues in the long run (11/14/2025)

3366. I feel as the mail dont have nothing to do with the drugs thats coming in here @ danville because i think its the c/o's who bring it in due to more money thats being offer to them.. (11/14/2025)

3367. I feel like people should get there mail but before they get there mail it should be scanned and if theres anything on it, the staff should tell the person about it and that they have to wait until its cleared. (11/14/2025)

3368. I feel like the mail is bad because they not giving us are mail and original copies of the photos and mail overall and what are family os paying for we not gettig (11/14/2025)

3369. I feel that Mailing Should stay the same Especially with The Pictures being mailed Us individuals Need Them to be sent how they are instead of Copying them on our Tablet (11/14/2025)

3370. I got a letter on my tablet from my grandmother, telling me she had cancer for the second time.
That might of been my last letter feom here she is 77 years old....ajy day could be her last and that could be my last letter with her last words..... I want to hold it cherish it but i can not IDOC wont let me because they say drugs comes threw the mail they have the right to search it have dogs sniff it test it and then let me have it...like i said it could be my last with her last words a special memory. But i can not physicaly hold it and thats not the worst part IDOC tells me it will be deleted in Six months imagine ur family last words disapering befor ur eyes as u watch it count down. This is prison ur spost to be able to cherish mail an pictures the originals .....thats what its about having tye original document letter picture the conversation not just something u have limited access just because IDOC has a Drug crises dosnt mean they have to push the crises on me i got 17 years to do these original letters and birthday and holiday cards signitures personal iformation and pictures are what get me threw well"Had"gotten me threw now its all gunna be thrown away digitaly its not fair.....just because im in prison serving my time dont mean u shouldnt treat me fairly i just think u can do test on our mail with out just taking it from us.....thank you for listening. (11/14/2025)

3371. I think that reproducing mail as a general rule is absurd. While im very passionate about reducing the influx of dangerous contrabad in IDOC, I implore the Department to consider alternatives. Without our physical mail, we may miss the connection that is bridged between us and our families through our mail. I would love to feel the texture that a pen stroak creates as I read my loved ones letters, or a drawing from my child. Not a reproduction. Furthermore, the oversight and constant digital reproduction of our mail will impose upon loved ones. They may feel as though they are being watched too closely and for undue reasons. In turn, they will feel discouraged to send anything via mail. Moreover, section 145/a-2-C is not specific enough. It opens the door to the Department to do as they wish with our mail at any reasonable method they

see fit to prevent incoming contrabad. What constitutes "reasonable?" That is too subjective. I think this sets the foundation for the Department to violate our rights as they deem "reasonable." Its preceident that will set the stage for far worse impositions to individuals in custody and our loved ones. I think that the directives are great for the portion that intends on having legal mail senders verified, seeing as the contraband is coming from fradulent prividleged sources. Why scan our mail in it's entirity if the Department knows it's not the regular mail causing problems? Additionally, making individuals in custody get publications from the publisher itself puts undue hardship upon loved ones. It limits the amount of access we have to knowledge as well. The Department is skilled enough to screen such publications regardless of its origin. Somehow their has to be a middle ground here though. My suggestion would be a standardized disciplinary plan for this situation that forces every facility to be uniform in its proceedings. As I have been in multiple different facilities, I have seen the vast disciplinary differences regarding this particular contraband. Some facilities are harsh in their disciplinary actions while others basically let the individuals in custody live without stringent consequences (in comparison). Furthermore, addiction is on the rise in IDOC. I have seen individuals in custody who have developed new addictions because of the contraband they ingest. They could truly benefit from treatment, yet I dont recall anyone offered help with even so much as a proper individualized treatment plan. The department is focusing on symptoms with these new directives. It is so alarming that many individuals are suffering with a new substance use disorder diagnosis but would not otherwise qualify for said diagnosis had they not had been introduced to the substances while in custody. Individuals are returning to society worse off than they came. Where are the specific directives that focus on rehabilitating the newly addicted individuals? Where is a universal treatment directive? The department has a responsibility to us. These individuals are very sick people and many will go on to try wosre things than k2 once released if they are left untreated. The results lean towards a high risk of fatality in today's narcoeconomic culture. Fentanyl is in everything. Moreover, the individuals in custody providing the substances via mail contraband are suffering from a deeply rooted criminalgenic behavior disorder. Their are programs for that too. In totality, the preceeding begs the question: What really is the goal of the Department regarding the proposed directives and regulations? Find a balance between the individuals in custody's rights and measures to reduce the introduction of contraband through mail. Scanning and reproducing likely wont stop the problem. Focus of resoration of the individuals in custody. That's imperitive. (11/14/2025)

3372. Its horrible that we get another simple pleasure "recieving a letter from loved ones" taken away from us because suposedly there is contraband coming in #1 if it is true its still definetly not all offenders that are doing this matter of fact id be willing to bet that the percentage is extreamly low, and i realy think someone needs to get some real numbers to back up there claim that this is the only way to combat this supposedly problem. From where i am i see none of these problems there saying exsist (11/14/2025)

3373. Its kind of great for the ones that doing thing through the mail thats not suppose to be done but its also bad for the ones that never would do anything but use it for whats its worth. Like letters, cards, and pictures, etc. I dont think people like looking at copies of personal postage tht you would love have on your person (11/14/2025)

3374. Scanning our mail isnt going to fix the drug problem within IDOC,it didnt fix it in

Minnisota's department of corrections either in fact there problem became worse!Most of the drugs are coming into IDOC by its staff ,also how are we to know that,IDOC staff didnt take pieces of our mail or they scan it so its not readable?IDOC can quickly implement scanning our mail but yet its been6 years now that IDOC has been court ordered to have a electronic medical records system yet IDOC still has not complied,along with the rest of the Lippert consent decree!This is just another way in which the Illinois department of Corruption,is a criminal organization!There own staff memebers are the ones bringing in the drugs,yet all of the ones caught bringing in the drugs into Centrailia C.C. while i was there were staff!sure some may of came in through the mail,but thats nothing new in any prison system in the united states.Yet all of the staff members at Centrailia none were ever prosecuted,i wonder why that would be,could it be that IDOC is a criminal organization?In my 21year illegal incarceration i know it to be a fact! (11/14/2025)

3375. Who has giving any person of authority to screen someone family&friends mail when we dont know this individual when assessing pictures i dont know this person mindset. (11/14/2025)

3376. I believe inmates have a right to their physical mail. Digital copies are not comparable to actual letters from family and friends. Same goes for pictures. (11/15/2025)

3377. I believe the changes to be uneccassary and envasive.It already takes an unreasonable amount of time to recieve mail as it is.When we finally do recieve the mail its been tampered with outside of the guidelines that are deemed neccessary. (11/15/2025)

3378. I can understand where your point of view is regarding unknown substances on any given piece(s) of mail that may come via mail, however, do you really think that that is the real solution to your problem? You may be retarding the flow, but you will not entirely cut it off. In my opinion it's a waste of time and effort. Now if my family sends me pictures i have to worry about someone stealing my pin and reading all my letters and going through my pictures. If it were in my correspondance box i have a fighting chance of protecting my property. (11/15/2025)

3379. I dissagree with this change for alot of reasons.not having phyisical cards from loved ones with there handwritting takes the personal touch out of it. With everything being deleted after 6 months our family is spending money to send us things and we are not even able to keep them so i dissagree with that. Some family members pass away n its nice to have something from them. Multiple things ive had scanned already were not completely scanned i have multiple greeting cards where the bottom was cut off where my mother wrote on the inside of the card..ive asked for this to be reacanned or reproduced and 5 weeks later i still dont even have a response this was a birthday card from the beggining of October , i still dont know what the messages were for my birthday.i was told i can ask to have items reproduced ive wrote about multiple items over 4 weeks ago n still have no response.there are many reasons why i dont belive this is a good idea. (11/15/2025)

3380. I do not agree with everything the IDOC choose to do. And putting our mail and pictures on the tablet is not going to stop nor slow donw the drugs/K2 that are getting in behind these walls. They do not want to say it is one of there owe kind who's bringing it in. Use com-n- sence.

We as the inmayes cant get our hands on nothing like that unless an officer bringing it in to someone. Just saying. I dont agree with any of it on any level. But its wrong. And stoping us from getting our mail and pictures is wrong as well. And then i only have my pictures to look at for only 6 months and then they delete. Thats wrong all around. So im hoping and praying that this all will change soon in the future back to how it used to be. Thank you and God Bless (11/15/2025)

3381. I feel as if mail has a emotinal attachement everyone isnt using the mailing system to do illegal things staff is also responsabile for doing these things but it doesnt wanna be acknowledged at all so i dont feel as if mail should be on tablet an then i cant see it anymore afther so long its creul an unusal punishment one should affect the majority at all i dont like it (11/15/2025)

3382. I feel it can be two fold 1 it good to ensure the safty of the inmates because of harmful substance but what about the inmates that doesn't indulge in that kind of behavor (11/15/2025)

3383. I feel like its unfair to not allow us our mail, why should everyone be penalized for some elses choices? Then certain facilities dont scan all of the mail presented, why not just hand out whats given to use? (11/15/2025)

3384. I feel like yall need to change alot of stuff just not the mail we need classes so we can get goodtime they shawnne on give people that got 80 percent jobs (11/15/2025)

3385. I haven't had issues with recieving photos for over 6 years and now that photos are being placed on the tablet there taking much longer to recieve them. (11/15/2025)

3386. I support these changes as long as the department doesn't make it hard for us to receive books from free book and literacy programs that utilize used books. Lack of education is a large factor in recidivism. Plus, reading is a great alternative for those incarcerated who may other wise get into trouble. (11/15/2025)

3387. I think it was arbitray to enforce this policy specifically when there is no data that supports this security measure. In addition, I think when it comes to photos that come from a vendor (i.e. pele-post and freeprints) they should NOT be scanned and placed on the tablet, but rather they should be directly sent to the individual in custody on regular mail call. (11/15/2025)

3388. I think its creating more issues than it resolves. Mail was already behind, now its way behind. I write my brother in a juvinile facility and neither of us has very good handwritting. I understand the reasoning behind it but i thought mail was federal. We dont got alot going on here but having a piece of mail you can read anytime. Mail we get if we were in Segergation. Mail we can read if the wifi is out. Again i understand the reasoning but its causing more stress on not only inmates but the people in the mail room. Dont take our mail (11/15/2025)

3389. I think that the mail scan process is ridiculous as it takes away from the communication authenticity between an incarcerated person and their loved ones. If your children or your family send you a personalized card for your birthday, christmas, easter, or even valentines day you can

not recieve it. Upon request you can get a printout sent to you that will be full of staples and blurry from the printer process. Just a cheap piece of paper in place of the heartfelt card your loved one sends you. We also get pictures sent by loved ones, pictures that get printed on quality high gloss picture paper by picture printers that our loved ones pay good money for us to have and they also get printed on blank copier paper on a cheap printer and they come out fuzzy and blurry. This is not how to keep good communication between people incarcerated and their loved ones as it just takes away from it and makes people upset. Not everyone has people who will send them things directly from a distributor as they may not have credit cards or bank accounts like some of my loved ones, or like some of my other loved ones who refuse to put their card information online because of all the hackers and scammers. We are already forced to be away from family and loved ones, now the department is just making our punishment worse by taking away a couple of the very few things we still had left to keep a meaningful connection with those people. (11/15/2025)

3390. I think the illinois department of corrections reguarding the mail should let offenders receive photos if there from a company and not from and residentral home. (11/15/2025)

3391. I understand the prison has a problem with drugs intering facility and overdoses but this Not be held agaist all inmates. There should be a unit for all the inmates that smoke to protect the inmates that dont smoke, (like myself). (11/15/2025)

3392. I understand why its said they are doing the mail system the way they are doing it to cut down the coming into the institution of chemical sprayed paper or products. However,this new process effects everyone in the worse way it has made mail more slower,it is the middle of the month and many of us have to get our monthly channel guide that we are suppose to have by the first of the month because this is what we paid for. (11/15/2025)

3393. Mail should not be messed with mail is already slow,nobody wants this.All my cards my family send me as well as family photos mean alot to me and should not be copied or temperd with. (11/15/2025)

3394. Not a fan of new mail procedures. I enjoy receiving Christmas cards and photographs. I do understand why it is being implemented. So, it is what it is. (11/15/2025)

3395. Proposed changes cause less interaction with family and friends and does nothing to solve the problem it is trying to address. (11/15/2025)

3396. These Changes ARE NOT WELCOMED BY THE INMATES. The changes are AN EGREGIOUS VIOLATION of FEDERAL MAIL STANDARDS, and are yet another form of OPPRESSIIN, in wgich may very well cause more harm than good, to reentry into society, rehibilitation, and THE AFFECT, on ones mental health, by takibg away the essential human NECCESSITY, to be able to have such CONTACT, with family and loved ones (i.e. A letter, card etc... Directly from OUR LOVED ONES, connects US in such ways that CAN NOT BE DONE DIGITALLY, such as the SMELL OF HOME, or a LOVED one wgos sent the letter). The change will also stagnate, receiving Promt delivery of mail to individuals in custody whom may not have Possession of a tablet, and for those whom does possess a tablet, there is NO

FEATURE IN WHOCH "NOTIFY's" US that mail is Availablr for review, furthermore, at times The scanning of Certain mail, has CUT OUT ESSENTIAL WORDING and/or PICTURES. THUS in essence ILLEGALLY TAMPERING/ALTERING our mail. Everyone does not indulge in the non-sense in which the IDOC is aiming "to prevent". Illinois overall should STOP this practice of ACCOUNTABILITY, holding others RESPONSIBLE for the actions of an individual(s), and buching THE MASSES into one catgory, HUMANS are SO MUCH MORE COMPLICATED than THAT. These NEW POLICIES are NOT ONLY in VIOLATION OF FEDERAL LAW, but also depriving those undeserving of such deprivation (i.e. I've been wrongfully convicted/charged, sentenced to over 100 yrs, SHOT NO ONE, I WAS SHOT 5 times by 3 different Calibers, yet ILLINOIS ACCOUNTABILITY, has been manipulated to malisciously convict ME, but the prosecution failed to, and in fact did not attempt to even argue nor present any evidence of those whom they say I'm accountable for possessing THE REQUIRED INTENT to even charge Attempt Murder, there where zero projectiles collected/tested, and they dont KNOW beyond A REASONABLE DOUBT WHO SHOT WHO, or if my 'Co-Defendants" shot anyone at all).... This Change will cause more harm than good, and seems to remove certain responsabilities and ESSENTIAL POSITIONS, FROM IDOC employees, and as a result will also harm and replace the JOBS OF MANY EMPLOYEES. (11/15/2025)

3397. This mail process will be slower & if the leadership of IDOC think is going to change a drug problem they're wrong they pass out drugs at med line they sell pain meds on commissary,they give you pain meds when you get hurt,whats about to happen is the officers that are bringing in contraband will keep doing it & the prices will go up very prison Ive been housed in there has been some officer or staff member who has brought in contraband when this slow down & the users go through withdrawls the officers will get hurt because the users will have anxiety problems & will have to readjust & deal with these officers they were just ignoring they wont allow these officers to disrespect them & be unprofessional especially when their attitude reflect their problems from home that they bring to work. Then some smart individuals in custody will file a lawsuit from missing yard because the prison is short of staff from officers taking a day or two off,which yard is federally mandatory. The storyline is these guys are smoking fentanyl why haven't 1000+ people died in IDOC custody!?,or why isnt the entire prison population
sick with withdrawl from breathing in the secondhand smoke,the reason is officers fake these incidents & get paid days of leave,which brings this full circle uploading the mail to the tablet is a waste of time & taxpayers money because IDOC cant stop the greed from its own officers & staff so the problem wont stop even if they catch some staff,someone will replace them it won't stop! (11/15/2025)

3398. This new change has been non-effective for the IIC here at Dixon as our request to have our photos and letters photo copied and forwarded to us are not being fulfilled as posted. I requested items to be photo copied over a month ago and still to this date i have yet to receive any copies nor an explanation as to why. This is an issue for alot of us which may be a problem in the future (11/15/2025)

3399. This new system is not sufficient and makes no sense when it comes to the pictures especially when the pictures come from a third party provider like freeprints. (11/15/2025)

3400. This place dont have to do this bad. Im being punished enough for being here..it seems no one gives to f#$ks about us. Not all us are all F@#ked on drugs (11/15/2025)

3401. To me the proposes are unfortunate for our family and friends because how aweful it is for their cards and letters to be thrown anyway after being scaned. (11/15/2025)

3402. Akward but understandable. (11/16/2025)

3403. I BELIEVE THAT THIS MAKES MOST FEEL AS IF THE IDOC IS INVADING AND TAKING AWAY THE CLOSE AND PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP THAT WE HAVE AND TRYING TO BUILD WITH LOVE ONES BY TAKING WHAT LOVE ONES HAVE TAKEN THE TIME TO PERSONALLY DO TO BOND WITH US. IT FEELS LIKE THE IDOC IS ATTEMPTING TO KEEP US AT ""ARMS LENGTH"" OF OUR LOVE ONES. NOT FAIR AND NOT RIGHT. (11/16/2025)

3404. I do not believe the change will make a difference. I have not received mail that was sent over 5 weeks ago. I also had legal mail placed on my tablet that took 3 weeks. It was time sensitive. It is a hassle to have the mail printed. I do not feel confident that over time we will not be charged eventually for copies. (11/16/2025)

3405. I do understand staff saftey mail handleing (But)there has been No attempt to educate inmate about Any type what soever of a drug issue,about drug types side effect of results of long term use of K2 i have had 18 drug ticket never offersd a class or treatment was even denied 4 yrs straight to goto a drug program prison i do not take psych meds.im nonviolevt my whole prion rap sheet drug__drug crimes.i ask a out side place for any and all info i could get on k2 fentenal ect.i was denied to be able to post for inmates at the school,libraryand unit.what i post taken.so why is there no effert to educate people, (11/16/2025)

3406. I feel like this is a direct violation of constitutional grounds we are supposed be able to have access to the U.S mail service without invasion of privacy and i feel like this bill is a direct invasion of that privacy. (11/16/2025)

3407. I feel that idoc is use this as a way to be best for them but now that the mail is fixs why not use the time to better people thats in idoc help with the thing they need school forever one not just be with lil time but for all who wish to lrean more an better the world not leaving worst then they did when they got here thats change for all not just they on self reason. (11/16/2025)

3408. I like that the mail comes on here because i know for sure it will get here on time thank you so much in joy. (11/16/2025)

3409. I think the mail should not be scanned but it has aloud us to have hard cover books again so now we can buy books again (11/16/2025)

3410. I think this is wrong because this does not take into account an individuals emotions to a letter that might be sent from a love one who is passing on an that letter my be the last item ever

recieved from that person and you won't have the ability to save that letter in its original from. (11/16/2025)

3411. I understand the situation thats are presented by idoc but i also feel like if the pictures are sent from a company i feel like they shouldn't take the pictures and copy them (11/16/2025)

3412. I urge you to oppose any action that would stop the processing and delivery of physical mail to inmates who are incarcerated.
Physical mail- including letters, cards, drawings, and photographs- is an affordable and cherished form of communication for people incarcerated and their loved ones. In the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, prison visits ars limitex and lockdowna are frequent and mail is even mord essential for families to stay in connected.
Maintaning close relationship with a person's support system during incarceration supports rehabilitationvand improves public safety. Mail is essential to maintaining a sense of hope and connection and restricting ig has measurable negative impacts on mental health, behavior, and succes when peolke return home.
The safety of thosd living and working in IDOC prisons is paramount. However restricting the mail will not make them safer.
There iz no evidence that halting the delivery of physical mail to people who are incarcerated will improve institutional safety. In fact, other states that implemented mail scanning to stop the alleged problem of drugs coming into the prison through the mail saw drug use and overdoses increase.
If there is a verifiable substance use problem, it should be solved by addressing the root of the problem through comprehensive substance use disorder treatment for people who are affected by it during their incerceration. (11/16/2025)

3413. I wasnt aloud to recieve some of my families photos that were sent to me because of ""hand gestures"". I think that should be reviewed and discussed because my family doesnt throw ""gang signs"" or inappropiate ""hand gestures"" in family photos sent to me. Probably a misunderstanding. (11/16/2025)

3414. I would like itnif there were videos on some of the campaigns people have built for Dungeons and Dragons (11/16/2025)

3415. If one of the stated goals of the Governor of the state of Illinois is to ensure closer connection between inmates and their loved ones, I do not see digitizing mail as a pathway to this. Also it has been proven that other states that have digitized their mail systems they have not seen a reduction of contraband materials inside their facilitites. (11/16/2025)

3416. It is a federal offense to tamper with U.S. mail, stop trying to impose sanctions that violate the rights of the people, incarcerated or free, because it is all the same. (11/16/2025)

3417. It popsturous due to those who have legal cases going on the mail system it extremely backed up already so we dont ever get our mail during a accurate time. Some counties does not stamp legal mail on the outside of the evevlope.So by the time we get that mail its two to 3 months late .However certain dates for motions to be filed we tend to miss them due to the

extremely high lack of processing of the mail. Even the pictures that comes from the company Freeprints it takes us months to get them when our people recieves email stating pictures have been sent out n pictures should arrive by this date n pictures have arrived due to the tracking info placed on the pictures by the company and family members. We still dont get those pictures until months later. (2-4 months for pictures that come from a company. Is highly obsurb and outrageous. The mailing process for the prison it ashame. We are aware of the problem but then there should also be a better soulotion to inmates recieving mail on time. We put request in to recieve copies of our incoming mail and still havent even recieved any copy or let alone request hadnt even been responded to. Its sad to have to just sit back and to be treated inhumane in all aspects of the prison system already and then to go through the same ordeal with incoming mail (11/16/2025)

3418. It seems odd, but fair all together if the mail can be distributed in a timely manner. (11/16/2025)

3419. I've been lock behind these walls topped with barbed wire for twelve years. Before coming to prison my life was on filled with chaos and disorder. Mainly, because those tasked with overseeing my wellbeing were not well at being. However, amongst the confusion and disorientation of daily life at home at my grandfather's house i was at ease. At his house most of the time i slept because this was the only place i felt safe to. After my incarceration my grandfather continued to write and those letters when i read them made me feel safe and loved amongst the chaos of daily prison life. Sadly he passed away in 2022. But i still have all the letters he wrote. And when i am feeling the chaos closing in tight around me in prison i pull those letters out read them and feel the wave of ease over my body. But under the new rule for mail i would never be able to do this because the letters are on a tablet for only 6months and then their gone, lost forever in eternity. The counter would be the option to print such letters. Prison doesn't operate on care. If i want a letter its going to cost tax payers money to print it off or myself and my family again. There is more at stake. Like the psychological affects of not having those letters because i am poor and can't pay to have them printed off. There's got to be a better way. (11/16/2025)

3420. Most person who did not want to have betterlize living would think that incomming mail don't matter till it not safe and then it these police are trying to kill us. As one peruson whoms evoul (11/16/2025)

3421. My down sendram niece wants me to keep all her letters and save them all til i come home i cant do that with the tablet (11/16/2025)

3422. Removing the ability to physically hold mail sent by loved ones is detrimental to the mental health and stability of individuals in custody. Additionally the destruction of original mail without authorization of the individual would fall under federal law as unlawful destruction of mail, and is therefore a crime. The people who are enforcing the law upon us should themselves be held to at least the same standard if not a higher one! (11/16/2025)

3423. Smith v. York, Civil 3:23-cv-03024-TLB-MEF (W.D. Ark. Apr 24, 2023) April 24, 2023 Non-privileged legal mail may be opened outside of the inmate's presence without violating the

Sixth Amendment. Wolff, 418 U.S. at 576-77.
McCutcheon v. Lupinacci, CIVIL 3:24-cv-03003-TLB-MEF (W.D. Ark. Jan 29, 2024) January 29, 2024
Plaintiff's Sixth Amendment claim also fails. Plaintiff does not allege that the mail involved â€œprivileged mailâ€ to or from his attorney. Non-privileged legal mail may be opened outside of the inmate's presence
Wishnefsky v. Pa. Dep't of Corr., 191 M.D. 2021 (Pa. Commw. Ct. May 19, 2023) May 19, 2023
Petitioner has failed to plead specific facts establishing that the Policy's requirement that his non-privileged legal mail be processed through SmartCom violated his right to meaningful access
Madole v. Jail Adm'r Jimmy Dorney, Civil No. 2:20-cv-02239 (W.D. Ark. Feb 10, 2021) February 10, 2021
He further alleges that on January 11, 2021 and/or January 12, 2021, Defendant Levi opened his legal mail outside his presence and a document was missing from the paperwork. Id.; (ECF No. 13-2 at 6). He does not allege that the mail involved "privileged mail" to or from his attorney. Non-privileged legal mail may
Hughbanks v. Fluke, 4:21-CV-04167-KES (D. S.D. Mar 28, 2024) March 28, 2024
â€œPrison officials may open and read non-privileged legal mail.â€ Chance v. Johnson, 2019 U.S. Dist (11/16/2025)

3424. Some people got alot of time,and gone be here for a long time.And everybody dont use drugs or try to get drugs in.But this so called solution is going to affect everyone.Like some people love ones are old school and only know how to do stuff the old way,and refuse to use this hard complicated system.It just make it that much on hard on older people. (11/16/2025)

3425. Taking away our mail is limiting our connection with our love ones. That is one of the tools that we as prisoners have to feel and build on that connection with our love ones. We have children and grand chlidren that will be effected by this change once they learn that their letters won't make to their love ones. Punishing everyone for a problem that I.D.O.C. can not solve is not the way to do it. We should not have someone in charge that is not capable of solving problems respectfully and without hurting people. If their only option is to take away all of our incoming mail, then they're problem solving skills have cruel and punishing attention. This should not be allowed. (11/16/2025)

3426. The drugs will still come in.. Them stopping regular mail isnt doing nothing but making inmates who dont get the drugs sent in time in idoc harder, its not going to stop a thing so keep the mail coming in (11/16/2025)

3427. The fact that i see staff members walking around with chewing tobacco in their mouths makes me question how much this new system will actually stop when it comes to drugs entering the institution. Not only that but in this institution the mail is regularly behind by 2-3 weeks so having them copy then send us our mail through the new system is just going to take longer. Im well aware that theres no easy way to go about solving this issue, its just aggrivating because people who have no ties with the drugs are being punished. (11/16/2025)

3428. This has nothing to do with the mail system, but if you are someone from "Edovo" reading this, how are you promoting that these exams are worthy of going towards your

Associates Degree, if the "Certificate" we get says ' This certificate is not equivalent to course credit, milestone, earned time credit, certification, or a degree. We also do not verify the identity of the Learner ' at the bottom of it?? You are putting into peoples mind here that they have college class credits because you say that in every course. I know that CLEP Exams do hold some weight in certain colleges, but you arent telling these people that everything they are doing on the tablet wont count, because you cant verify the true "learner". So I am going to open a class action lawsuit on you for false advertisment, on behalf of the people in this prison that are all stupid and think they are Psychologists, and Psychiatrists now because of you guys. (11/16/2025)

3429. This should have never been allowed ,its a federal offense to play with our mail and send it to sombody else (a third party) there is NO sentemental value in paper copy mail or putinng it electronicly on our tablets i will try to pursue federal charges agianst I.D.O.C for tampering and changing or replacing our mail...!!! (11/16/2025)

3430. To those who have not been giving the Illions power to see that there is safe means that shall only be opened to us when in our inclosed living has cracked inwhere them whom view us have to make THE eye opener that ""THE END."" To give the meaning of hope its new begging call unto us All. (11/16/2025)

3431. Well i do understand the assumpted reasoning for the change but its a phnishment to me and all
others that have nothing to do with what the assumptions are .Nevertheless as usual when one dude does anything wrong the entire population of the i.d.o.c. shares the punishment or rather gets the punishment.i say so because an incident will occur and ths individual(s) at the cause of said incident would already be apprehended,yet everyone else has to suffer a worse fate than they and for what as no one even knows anything about the incident that started all the b.s. its not fair nor is it fair to take the mail from family and friends that sends puzzle books from the check out counter as last second purchases.Now we are being told that we cant get books news papers or magazines from home they have to come directly from sources of creation.People are poor and plenty of which cant afford to pay for a sky high subscription to a news paper,puzzle book, or magazine.Wich is why they sit displayed as they are at the check out counter.Families buy books news papers and magazines read them first then send them to us.Its no problem be it books,mags,& news papers will be scanned and put on our tablets also other wise its not fair to poor people and its a henerence in rehabilitation as the books,mags, and news papers offers us individuals in custody better ways of living better ways of thinking better decission making for us to be better individuals period.Now if this becomes the case im 100% for it because all i want is to live better be better and do better and what i have expressed is a start. Thank you. Sincerely Percy Hawkins #B39526 Centralia C.C. (11/16/2025)

3432. HB 3713 (Rep. Laren Faver Dias): This bill would protect the right of every person incarcerated t recieve their original, physical copy of their mail unless the mail is narrowly determined to thearten the security or safety of the instituion. It would aslo require Idoc to publily report data regarding mail identified as a threat by facility an outcome. It would ensure people who are incarcerated maintain the right to communicate with their outside support networks without losing access due to disciplinary sanctions. It would allow people incarcerated to communicate with their support systems via phone,mail,video, or electronic messaging free of

charge. We are working with the John Howard Association. Passed through a committee and is pending in the house. (11/17/2025)

3433. Hello,im tring to see both sides of this! Most inmates not happy.which in the time ive done alway causes worse for a good lengh of time.look,i understand c/o staff saftey.i get it.but,look i have had 18 drug tickets,not once was i offered Help,Treatment,ive been denied drug treatment prisons for4 years,look our mail laidy was fired for throwing away inmate mail.(federial offence)No charges,mental health fired for bringing in weed vape bens,+chargers,there our cell phones with chargers,prepaid phone cards+ chargers, tobacco officers bringing in dis guarding reculessly.i pick it up roll smoke,i get a drug ticket 28 days seggeration loss or privlegea,(warden blames inmate visits) But,our we not striped bent to cough??? Clothes checked! There is No way in a male prison that all or any is going in to come out with out a hospital trip.!!! All programs,yard,jobs,good time cut to a minomum.no one left dixon on work release or braclet in the 6 yrs ive veen here.No one yard 20 maybe a week,a/a maybe once a month.stc inmates alloud to attend scarce.there is no longer public service to comunity ,road side clean up ,parks,job training only offered to (GP)(general population inmates)no mantaince,colinarary arts Drug treatment.we are suppose to get 8 hrs minunom for yard a week.Not 20 minutes a month.inmates are housed more and more in house,very little moxement.Yet dixon warden say we have full staff.No one gets there medical writs alway canceled changed.(My point)bordom.library a Rare!E_ incarceration tablets mostly books over 80 yrs old,so free to print,yet you have50 known book for prisoner places to offer Current Knowelege.but mist turbed away destroyed for a coffee spot,pen ormarker.(Most places) advicets for civil rights to gain knowlege a amendment constitutional right.they do Major studies on the very issue Idoc Fails to Even Atempt to give any kniwlege about,to post noticesin units,librarys,school buildings TheChurch even.Or even nowas i sit in my cell to commentNot 1Old orNew (Any) thing about the_K2_paper Or fentenal you claim. major studies done i even got stuff from,hosptal,prison health news,mid west books Major studies,there were 3 fentinal cases that being inMax prisons, Max!though we are level 2 status most times even feeds in house,school,church,xocational Canceled there is Rarely a weapon, some fights do to 1 theifts 2 gambling,3 bordom,no programs,even to come,in house,a/a maybe once a month.If this is Such a Huge issue Why is nothig posted on this orWhat the abuse ofK2__ or so called fentenal epedimec.all decks at peace rarely fights if so mostly gambling.yes there is drug use there has been since befor i was born im 56.Violence minumal,weapons minmumal,Rape Growing and Yet the victoms you wont Help!They seek outside services and you violate there rights to confidentuality open there mail without them present Make copies keep originol Put it on there tablets,come on that is Wrong!!!!! Now the law library on tablets Nice But Big issue because you can sit pull up any inmates case by checking there id.Causing Big issues for sex offender crine,(I Think Great)But a big issues for those tring to hide, beforced to do now even More sexual things. problom But I Agree Serves Them Right.maybe they ll learn. From! I feel you are going the wrong way.you need to make,and educate about the K2_so called fentenal problom. I had 18 drug tickets not once so called fentinal k2 yes _spice fake or sinthetic weed. Yes rarely what imates call an epposode it is handled not only buy staff But inmates.We do care for one another even via gang oppisites thekey is in groups program warden e_tablet notices,bulitons,education ona/a n/a g/a(gamblers anomous)ifeel you should look more at Harm Reduction smart recovery which has hirer sucess rate at17â„… vs 9â„… a/a n/A.the books all outdated 80yrs plus so free to orint books to pfisoners look to educate and to uphold

contitutional liberites,and amendment fights to not sencor.the E incarceration tablets our Very expensive to use for inmates and there familys as well .i feel Idoc Big busines so you want recitism to keep prisons full and your pay checks coming.!But do like the evodo app awosome games music phones to much.and You still have Not turned on wifi boxes.you cannit Use what your offering once in cells thanks if You read this (11/17/2025)

3434. I believe the changing incoming mail to the facilities/institutions is an invasion of privacy. Yes, keeping the institutions safe and secure are important but so is REHABILATION of indivisuals in custody and their families and love ones. Someones child or grandchild or young niece or nephew may want to send a simple crayon drawing of a house with stick figures as people or a simple smiley face to represent love and bonding with that indivisual in custody but cant because the institution thinks its drug paraphilnalia. Where does that leave REHABILATION? (11/17/2025)

3435. I do not want my mail to get digitally screen and placed on the tablets because i actually like receiving my mail. Especially all of my holiday cards that i receive from family and loved ones. Since this might be the case I've had to tell them not to waste their money buying and sending me anymore. If the should chose to still do so and i am not allow to have them i believe IDOC should have to use their money to give us the option to send holiday cards and etc back to our friends and family. I rather just be allowed to have them. It gave me something to look forward to toward these lonely holidays, birthdays, and special occasions. (11/17/2025)

3436. I feel that this change is unfair and cruel. We no longer can have cards and pics of loved ones in our hands. The process scanning them in could be used to inspect them for drugs ect... I really dislike this implication. (11/17/2025)

3437. I feel that this is unjust. I understand that this was due to people doing things they shouldnt. But that was only a small portions, a physical form of letters, picture and holiday cards are intimate and contribute to the wellness of our mental health imagine all the drawings from children of incacerated parents and how emotionally detached it is to have this happen to them. It is unfortunate. And it is not fair to everyone else. (11/17/2025)

3438. I have seen these mail changes take place in Missouri prisons many years ago and the drugs are now suprisingly more readily available and even much cheaper in Missouri after the mail changes took place... IT IS AS IF THE STAFF ARE FOR SURE INTRODUCING THE DRUGS INTO THE FACILITIES. It will never end. There are too many corrupt people in this world to stop the flow of the paper dope. (11/17/2025)

3439. I think this change in mail procedure is the best thing for all individuals whom are locked up due to the drug problem. Its is the best thing for rehabilitation for everyone. Its been so out of control for over 5 years now, so on behalf of the population that didnt do drugs on the outside or on the inside, thank you (11/17/2025)

3440. I understand why they have to be careful with mail, but when it comes to pefsonal cards if theyre flaggedthey should test them with a kit because their is alomore sentimectal value to a physical card ratherthen a baqualitycopy on your tablet that only lasts 6 months. Same with

photographs, if they make low quality copies of our pictures and put them on our tablets only to last 6 months what happens to the originals. How can i trust normal people regardless of what jothey occupy to handle picures of mwife and my daughters . theres a number of things a person could do in the posession of my pictures if they were tempted. ..... In here you guys say certain individuals utilize books, pictures, and paper mail to either transport drugs or to hide weapons so your solution ist ban them. So in the outside world since people use cars and trucks to traffick weapons and drugs should we just ban all vehicles? The truth is, people will always find a way whichis unfortunate but taking extreme measures that negatively impact people that are innocent of said accusations just isnt the way. I say you just hire more people to check mail as throughly ass possible its a win win,because now you just created more jobs for illinois residents. Idoc could also start its own photo application similar to free prints and pelkepost which would genrate more money for thenste of illinois and cut out the "middleman" so you know theres no corrupted pictures. (11/17/2025)

3441. I understand the safety and security of IDOC is paramount. But it is unconstitutional to prevent someone from recieving their actual mail. A copy or a digital photoscan is not the actual mail. Physical mail that has been written and handled by the sender is more meaningful than a photocopy.Cards, obituaries, etc. have sentimental value. Some people will never go home and will die in prison and this should be taken into consideration. If a person is caught smuggling, has in their possession or is using drugs should be punished in this way. Not everybody. (11/17/2025)

3442. I would like it to go back to reseaving mail in person beceause i would like to re-read my mail or must inportliy. I would like to one day make my mail home with me for membery (11/17/2025)

3443. I would like to know where are my pictures after the picture are scaned and sent to me..bc im not giving permission,nor is my family giving permission to menard or idoc to keep personal pictures..would like to know this.thank u. (11/17/2025)

3444. IDOC Mail for inmates. IDOC plan to punish other and all inmates mail, because of a few inmates is wrong. IDOC is trying to take are mail writes! They are taking are mail that family sends us, because Staff don't do there job! If IDOC staff (mail room) would do the job that the taxe payers pay them to do. We would not have this problem. IDOC is trying and doing to are mail is not legal! They are scaning mail of inmates that have done nothing wrong or ther family. IDOC punish inmates that have nothing to do with this problem!! So if one inmate has junk sent in all inmates are at fault and all inmates should pay the price! (1)Mail room Staff do the job they were hired for! (2) ILLinois State Police shake down Staff and vehicles! (3) Punish the inmate that did wrong thing! (4) Get new stuff to do mail with! I have not gotten a birthday card copy from my sister. That is almost 70 years old! To have the real card before she passes away means something! Legally inmates are a loud mail from family and mial room is a loud to open it, but not to give it to inmates is not legal! (11/17/2025)

3445. Institutonal mail is an intimate way to keep in contact and an emotional connection with our loved ones in the world. We will no longer have physical access to momentos that are precious to us if the mail is electronic. The mail that is received will only be held for 6 months

and thats not ideal because you cant put a date and time limit on priceless moments. What about our loved one that pass away and we are only limited to that 6 month time frame to have one last piece of them? Its unfair and inhumane. Please dont take away our physical mail. (11/17/2025)

3446. Its even worser i cant keep up with my family like iwant to because i have to wait even longer to recieve mail by the time my mail finnaly gets to me it be too late to respond (11/17/2025)

3447. More reading material.
Free educational movies .
After so many points earned a selection of free entertainment such as movies or music or credit towards the music/movie/game rental shouls be provided (11/17/2025)

3448. My comment is that l understand the problem requires outside the box options and solutions. The poor planning ti obtain the equipment and staffing necessary to minimize the negative impact shows a level of indifference and disrespect. The unreasonable delay in the mail scanning system show the unpreparedness in the plan chosen. Here, at Illinois River the small office size scanner being use to process mail for 1700 individuals in custody is shameful. It should not take 3-4 weeks to receive mail. It has been recognized that connection with family and friend is important to maintain. Nevertheless, there continues to be disregard for the harm that delayed correspondence has on the importance, commitment and motivation connected to any correspondance. (11/17/2025)

3449. My opinion on the mail situation is why punish everyone else for a problem that don't have anything to do with indiviuals who are not trying yo seel on contraband through the mail system. If I want to read my personal letter from my love one I should be able to do this when ever I want. The problem is after so long it is disgarded from my tablet and it could be from someone that is passed away and thisbis the last letter they send to me. So for mail to be on the tablet is not one thing I would vote yes on if I had a vote on this matter. (11/17/2025)

3450. Putting all forms of mail on a tablet, takes away our rite to receive mail & keep it after incarseration. Legally it's also unconstitutional on a federal, also a state level. It's aparent & understandable that drugs are a serious problem institutionally, on a sercuity, safety & health level for officers, healthcare staff & individuals in custody. That being said agreeably, all mail should be scanned with ultraviolet black light drug scanner, processed then given to individuals in custody. Lastly there is mail that can't be replaced from lost loved ones, friends, children, & spouces that hold an eternal sentamental value beyond measure. (11/17/2025)

3451. The facility has NOT printed out the requested greeting cards i recieved in the digital mailbox. menard has a decades long history with not abiding by the directives as provided by IDOC & that is my biggest complaint with this new mail policy & every policy because there is poor oversight & accountability & ultimately menard will use this as another way to punish its inmates in custody extraneously as they do with every other policy. The employees here have strong political beliefs that they use as a excuse to enact revenge on the progressive ideologies that they hate in this region. There needs to be MORE overaight at menard regarding this policy & all policies. The governor, director, & every one else understands that the republican populist

of this southern community uses menard as retaliatory offense against the progressives of northern illinois. We are abused physically, mentally, & deprived of many meaningful ways of contacting our loved ones is a longtime problem here due to poor oversight & accountability. (11/17/2025)

3452. The I.D.O.C. Department Must copy and let us have as physical documents in our possession any Affidavits and any legal documents that we will need to present to the courts as an exhibit in order for us to file the proper petition in court instead of these documents being placed onto our tablets. Majority of us do not have lawyers where it can be sent through the legal mail. By this Administration scanning our mail such as Affidavits and other important legal documents tha we must use to file any petition and motions. There has to be some type of system where we can print these documents or have the prison institution implement a procedure where we can obtain legal documents other than having access to it on our tablets. This is clearly a constitutional violation of our right to access the courts. For example I would want to file a prose post-conviction petition claiming actual innocence based off of a new eyewitness and the Affidavit was sent to me through the mail system but it was placed onto my tablet. With out attaching that affidavit or any legal document to support my actual innocence I cannot file any petition. With that being said we would like for these documents to be copied and sent to us through the regular mail. As for the original documents it can be sent back to our senders. Please this is vital for our quest to fight for our freedom. Thank you (11/17/2025)

3453. The mail dont come on time. What are yall doing with the mail after yall scan it yall keeping it? Its unfair we should still be able to recivce pictures from pelle post and free print of our love ones without having them scan! (11/17/2025)

3454. The mail process in illinois river correctional center has gotten so bad, that it should be considered illegal and unconstitutional. I dont mind the new changes if it could be logical and done in a timely manner. Unfortunately it is not. My mail is taking me over a month to get to me for physical items such as books and religious items. My letters and mail have been sent to me a little less than two months and they still havent reached to the copying process to be put on the tablet, and i still have to request and wait for a physical copy. Ive been told by other individuals in custody have not recieved any copies of the items on the tablet yet. This system and process is not working or is being done by people who dont care about "promptly" matters. (11/17/2025)

3455. The proposed bill in theory might help minimize contraband in penal institutions but the amount of time it takes to recieve any/all mail is horrible. Its already taking months to recieve mail and or packages and now youre eliminating the ability to recieve books,pictures, and magazines that could be free since our friends and family already have them and there-by force us to spend even more money on these items from a vendor. Completely uncalled for and absolutely absurd. (11/17/2025)

3456. There is a much needed emphasis to be placed on the privilege and right of family/friends connections through the U.S. mail system. This is a life giving, life breathing avenue that sustains all involved in its usage. Getting mail while incarcerated and sending mail while incarcerated arw actually highlights to life itself. As an inmate I cherish my ability to freely receive mail from those I love. Each individual piece of mail I have received over the last 36

years is a heart connection that I can tangibly hold in my hands, keep for long periods of time, and which act as physical reminders that I am connected to people that love me and that I love. The mail pieces are gap connectors that bridge the physical distance between me and those I love. To now have all mail scanned into a digitized form and made available on my tablet removes that connection. I can no longer hold a letter or card sent from my mom, stepmom, sister, nephews, aunts, etc., as that gap bridger of our physical separation. There is no definitive data that correlates the entrance of illicit drugs into this penal institution through the mail, but there is the same when it comes to the visiting room, and through staff. Yes, I said staff! It is a known fact and when staff can go out to their vehicles on the breaks at work, get high, and nearly die from an overdose in their vehicle, well we have a staff drug related issue. And these drugs walk right through the front gate by IDOC staff members regularly! It is a known truth among my peer commumity and a sector of my peers know who to go to for their "fixes". Again, I said it! Someone needs to. My mail is scanned into a digital processor, given to me electronically and I cannot even touch it, hold it, or keep it forever. In six months of receiving that mail, this system will toss all the original pieces of mail in the garbage and I will never possess it. The dumpster will eat it! This is an outcry for fairness and bottom-line humanity. Even the system does not follow its own guidelines as the regulations state each piece of mail will be given a document number and should I want a hard copy of a particular piece of mail, I must send a request to the mailroom with the document numbet of the mail I would like and a hard paper copy will be given to me. I have received several pieces of scanned mail with NO DOCUMENT NUMBER ASSIGNED TO IT and when I have asked for a hard paper copy of a specific mail piece, my requests have gonr unanswered. This new practice is totally dehumanizing, demoralizing, and destructive to the maintenance of the family connections that IDOC so falsely claims to foster within its inmate populations. It needs to be stopped, the real issues tackled appropriately and aggressively, namely the drug use among staff as well as the muling of those drugs within this system. (11/17/2025)

3457. This measure will only make communication with loved ones more strained and do little if anything to curb the drug scourge inside facilities. I have already been denied christmas cards from my septugenarian mother while individuals in custody continue to get their "fix". Much like any prohibition in history, those who choose to skirt the law will ALWAYS find a way. (11/17/2025)

3458. We as offenders in custody have the right to have the letters that our loved ones write to us them or our keepsakes to have for life getting copys and print outs of them aint the same as the real one and when we do ask for print outs the mail room take for ever or dont send them at all stating that they have to get premission to copy and print them when it clearly states that all we have to do is request for them to be printed and sent to us ive been trying to get my letters for three to four weeks now printed off and still have not recieved them (11/17/2025)

3459. We should be able to write and recieve mail from any registered and licensed attorney. Disposal of my original mail with my family
And others who may write information on letters. I have one showing my family return address whos responsible for that mail how will it be destroyed???? Im getting where I
Don't even want family pictures/mail. Its
Strange to emplement a blanket policy when the few are responsible. Didn't I.D.O.C. Just receive

money for the detection of illegal substances/contraband. I must say I dont agree with these measures not at all.
(11/17/2025)

3460. we should be allowed to have our original mail. its crazy the amounof petty things being taken from us. also not being allowed to ve our pictures???? i know it says to send a reques and u can have copies but that is a lie ive sent requestsfor copies of my pictures and they told me copies werent being made at this time and there was no time frame as to whn they would be made. its ridiculous!!!! we have children, family, and loved ones we should be allowed to have mail as a form of correspondence. i have 4 children i havemt seen in 4 months bc i cant get my picyures they sent and they arent old enough to bring themselves to visit me. its senseless. there areo many other moe importamt concerns you guys should have if ypour worried about safety not in the form of mail!! our safwty is in jeapordy as well breathing in black mold , fungus in the drains,lead paint, the issues go on and on. (11/17/2025)

3461. Well its already bad enough that we are at a constant distance from our love ones by being incarcerated/imprisonened behind these steel and concrete barriers. We have limited access to our love ones as is and if you take the mail it take away another vital line of communication from us with our love ones. Our son and daughters send their love to us through drawings and finger paintings that they did, and to just give us a copy of that art and then destroy the original, and thats IF they really do destroy the original, its just not fair. Our wives and fiances and girlfriends put thier perfume ordors and tears and love into the material they mail to us, yet it will be stripped frim us and in its place a copy of it with none of the love that was flowing through the original paper. All in all it is a terrible idea to change the mailing system into this new system they are trying to impliment. (11/17/2025)

3462. With today's technology of email and text messaging, when a person takes the time and makes the effort to send a hand written letter to me its realy special and meaningful. The scanning of the handwritten letter takes away the meaning of their efforts. Being able to hold the handwritten letter provides a bond between me and that person, which is taken away when the letter is scanned. (11/17/2025)

3463. About this survey
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On October 10, 2025, the Illinois Department of Corrections published a First Notice of proposed changes to 20 Ill. Adm. Code 525 Subpart B and C, regarding Mail and Publications, in the Illinois Register, Volume 49, Issue 41. This notice and the proposed changes have been uploaded to the Bulletin Board on your tablet. You may use this survey to submit comments to the Department on the proposed changes until Monday, November 24, 2025. (11/18/2025)

3464. Even though every individual in custody dont partake in drugs in any way shape form or fashion why should we be subject to our mail (IMPORTANT, VALUABLE, SENTIMENTAL) being scanned put on the tablet without any clarification as to where those sent photos or mail would be stored or destroyed we dont even know how long the mail will remain on the tablet mail is sent from our lived ones for us to hold on to for years as a symbol of rememberance how can something be remembered through this scan process what if something happens to mine or

someone else tablet in which they needs to access for important purposes having a piece of mail could be mentally and is mentally helpful to and for alot of people incarcerated (11/18/2025)

3465. I believe that not every individual in custody should be held responsible for any individual who decides there addiction is more important than having direct contact with there loved ones. To be able to receive our mail is the greatest feeling to be able to touch something that our family has also touched makes it even more sentimental and for us to lose that privelege for certain selfish individuals who want to take advantage of the mail system for there own gratification. (11/18/2025)

3466. I don't think it's right to change the mail process because I like to do different things to help take my mind away from this place such as sudoku puzzles and word search.My Mom and Grandma sends me sprital readings and cards such as the daily bread,word for you today and intouch just too name a few. My Grandma sent me a card last week. She writes me in the card and i can't even read what she wrote because it is cut off it don't even show the whole bottom of the card so I can't read all that she was saying. Plus when my family and love ones sends me picthers I like to send different pics out to different people such as my children and my two Grandmothers who are well in their 80's with the letters that I write them. I don't think its fair to me or my family. I think people need ways to free them selfs and you all are stopping that. (11/18/2025)

3467. I dont think this is fair to us inmates because mail is our only connection to our family i have kids who send me cards and drawings an having a photo copy is not the same thing as the physical card or drawing. An while i do understand the need to try an control the flow of drugs as someone who has not use those drugs i am being punished for the actions of others (11/18/2025)

3468. I think the new mail process is ridiculous and makes everything more complicated when recieving mail from our love ones or legal mail, the process takes longer to recieve mail (11/18/2025)

3469. I truly understand that the (IDOC) doing everythingbthey can to protect the health an lives of all individuals in custody an the staff that works withen the facilities. I do feel that (IDOC) should have A better way of coordinating the mail process due to the sentimental value an emotional damage it can cause to someones mental health or their enviorment in general. At least let the mail feel close as possible, because it promises that are made but never fully accomplished so I feel IDOC should take its time when it comes to the mail process. (11/18/2025)

3470. I usually get publications from national geopgraphic and various auto magazines and sinc this proposal i have not received any and yet am still getting charged for my subscriptions. This motion is excessive and abrupt an unconstitutional. Per federal law mail withheld or delivered is considered a felony; sowith said how are these installations of ""laws"" being passed without our consent and neglect of our constitutional rights!!!!!!!! (11/18/2025)

3471. I, am sending this response in two seperate catagories; First, relating to the digital mail. Second, relating to the music and games that are provided to us.

It is clear that the mailroom staff here at Centralia are going beyond their authority when it comes to labeling the photos that you receive through FreePrints altered. I recently had photos confiscated because alcohol and hand gestures were blurred out. I mean how is it that this photos are altered if they were actually blurred out to make sure that the photos fell under IDOC guidelines? This is truely unjust, especially if your family and friends go beyond their means to make sure that these photos are sent under the rules and guidelines of their institution. Furthermore, it is also unfair that the mailroom office does not give you a choice to send these photos back to your loved ones. Instead, the Individual In Custody Notification Of Unauthorized Mail only gives you the choice to____Have items destroyed and send remaining mail that is not contraband. Which is totally wrong because inmates should be given the option to send the altered photos back to our loved ones and the remainig photos to the individual in custody. So pretty much this is an issue that needs to be corrected. Lastly, there is no reason why individuals in custody should not be able to receive photos that are filtered. At Centralia, photos are consider altered if they have the digital dates on them. Now, please make sense of that?
In regards to the music and games on our tablets. The music and game packages are far to expensive. It was more reasonable price and less expensive with gtl. I mean, $1.20 an hour gets very expensive after just a few hours. So this also needs to be corrected.
Thank you.
Lastly,

(11/18/2025)

3472. It makes no sense because you have to hire compitent people to scan the mail and they cant be lazy either. No one cares about us in the D.O.C so they dont care that we get our mail either. Why dies it take so long? (11/18/2025)

3473. Its affecting how we are getting our legal mail while we are in segregation! We are not being given our mail nor our legal mail! They want us to sign for it but wont give it to us at the moment we sign for it. (11/18/2025)

3474. Its not true that we get weapons and drugs through the mail; I believe that their (the prison)trying to cover all basis so that it never happens but truth be told things wont change even if they do the mail this way..drugs will still make its way inside the prison so its a waste of time, money, and energy especially when their own officers do drugs, sell them, and actually gets caught most recently with drugs and later detand. (11/18/2025)

3475. Mail from the clerk of the court is legal mail notwithstanding the fact you guys classify it ss personal mail. Thus, it should be given promptly and directly to. The intended reÃ§iprnt because such mail is time sensitive. For example, a complaint and summons form. Also, a college professor rendering an expert opinion on an inmate's case and a letter concerning the same is legal mail and must be given to the prisoner directly and not through electronic mail scanning. Please rrspond back because ii'm having issues in this rrsprct. (11/18/2025)

3476. Mail is sentimental with a tablet or without it .it is vauled copyed or not a tablet can be broke or took with ones mail and pictures on it ones still has their personal property of sentimentals (11/18/2025)

3477. Mail is Unnecessarily slow and it makes it difficult for inmates to make Deadlines for court. The mailing system is not the issue. The Departments lack of security to ensure the safety of those that they're responsible for is the reason for this problem. (11/18/2025)

3478. Mail takes way too long to get to us. They treat us like we dont matter and like our rights are not as important as theirs. How would they like to recieve their incoming mail two months or so later. They sould consider this as a small town. Even communities if 800 or so have their own post office and recieve mail in a timely fashion. Why is it not important to hire more staff and tackle our mail. Why is this state ran facility not fully staffed in ratio to inmates and departments made to always run as any well ran company in the united states. This system is broken. In its entirety. Everything needs improving. Maybe the powers that be should take a gander at other state prisons in different states. Maybe then would you noticed what can and should be improved. Thank you (11/18/2025)

3479. The mail changes are unjust and seems to be a means of fitting or justifying a narrative that has not been fully and completely supported by the allegations being touted by the department of corrections staff. Namely, the exaggeration of drugs and illicit materials that are being confiscated through the mail or legal mail process, which I've personally been a victim of the unprofessional tactics being applied that goes against the process of recieving legal mail and against the department's training as a means to unlawfully entrap and accuse one of attempting to access drugs/contraband inside the penal institution. I have filed several grievances pertaining to several different instances of the improper handling of legal mail and even the destruction or loss of my legal mail, which is both against the rules and a federal offense. The practice of eliminating mail will also, hinder the communication with those that have loved ones that are older and less tech savy, which will impact individuals in custody that has been incarcerated for longer periods of time, causing additional strain to one's ability to maintain relationships and continue to rehabilitate back to useful citizenship. These measures has also been rumored to have an impact on the sending and recieving of legal mail and filing of court documents, which can't all be e-filed which can and will deprive one of access to the courts and/or the ability to properly file claims in court. These tactical moves that are being employed by state employees along with false reports of the amounts of drugs, namely fentanyl are not supported by any amount of evidence. With the known information pertaining to fentanyl and the deadly results of handling, coming into contact, ingesting, or even breathing it, there would be an enormous amount of true overdoses and deaths throughout the department of corrections, especially in the mailrooms where staff are said to be coming into contact with such an enormous amount of fentanyl laced contraband. These are department wide tactics that everyone from security to medical staff to clinical services staff are all conspiring to exaggerate for hazard pay, increase in department security levels, and less movement amongst individuals in custody. Along with the false positives produced by the Nark-II tests kit that is well known to be unreliable based upon it's history in other states before being adopted by IDOC which has been used to substantiate unfounded disciplinary reports in an effort to inflate numbers, there has been an astounding number of false reports of overdoses at Henry Hill Correctional Center with nurses putting individuals in custody's lives at risks by deliberately administering sometimes multiple Narcan shots without confirming any presence of drugs or drugs being the cause of one's medical issue. Due to the above listed circumstances and other known hinderances that will be caused by the

elimination of physical mail, I cannot support the suggested changes and hope that it's a way for these inconsiderations to be halted. (11/18/2025)

3480. The mail scanning should be done away with because the mail room is illegaly refusing and or ignoring all my requests for copies of mail that i need for legal purpuses. (11/18/2025)

3481. The proposed rule change doesnt take into account each individual facilitys' culture. As many individuals in custody know and as springfield administration understands, prison officials tend to abuse and twist rules in a way that creates a tension between the intent and application of the directive. What oversight is there going to be to ensure mail is scanned in a timely fashion? Since this change has been in effect, not one person in MY facility has recieved printouts of requested mail. Why? Also, facilities are using teir 'discretion' to turn away and refuse even more mail ESPECIALLY the current facility i am at. Interpreting codes and rules in ways that benefit their intentional oppressive conduct. By implementing such a rule without extended oversight (without saying:grieve any issues) IS going to create isses in communication and open a pathway for more ways to be oppressed and controlled. (11/18/2025)

3482. This has been some real bullshit, I have not received books that i've sent for from bookstores that are free to the incarcerated population. Which is unusual, Everytime I have sent for books through these bookstores. I have always recieved my books. Now I have not rrcieved them and i have rewrote them... Some bullshit is going on with this wack system I.D.O.C. has got going on, first of all its all to true that staff of I.D.O.C. has been caught bringing contraband in to many times to put a massive amount of blame on the incarcerated population all to opress the opressed furthermore.... I have witnessed staff walked out of three different I.D.O.C. facilities for contraband and or sexual misconduct with individuals whom are in custody. I've been incarcerated in I.D.O.C. for 7 years and 3 months.... This im stating are facts and this new bullshit I.D.O.C. has going on is some get back non factual based garbage attack on the incarcerated population do to the closure and threats of closure of decrepid, condemned facilities amongst other issues dealing with staff whom are at fault and some incarcerated subjects. Dont attack us all out of malice get back.... This im stating is truth, im doing the time ive witnessed it all 10 x over and thisbis a fact..... (11/18/2025)

3483. This is not working im still in court fighting for my life n have not received A copy of the states motion and I have A court date on December 11 and I still have not got A response from the court. (11/18/2025)

3484. This new mail proposed rule is not fair for us individuals in custody. Especially for the ones with no television. Books is their entertainment. Without books alot of individuals would be in alot of trouble catchimg tickets. Back than in 2019 some IDOC facilities did not let plain/ certain paper, greeting cards, letters with lip gloss or lipstick on it or fragrance perfume in the facility but yhe rest of the facilities did let those items in. Now we can not have our families send books from online companies. Theres alot of online stores thats out in the world in different states to order from. If you can not verify the sender we can not have the books. We must send the books back or destroy. Some individuals in custody can not afford to send the books back. So our families lost money if destroyed and the individual in custody.These book writters use amazon and apple and other places to sale and shipped their books when ordered online. When

the IDOC stop the visitation drop off thats when everything stop. Now drones books with weapons cell phones. Now IDOC dont really search everything that come in during visitation drop off that not the individuals in custody fault thats IDOC security fault for not during their job (11/18/2025)

3485. What there doing with our mail , do they really think this will help prevent ,what ever its called that these people are doing to get high!!!!
It seems that its everywhere inside the prison system . if i can see it i know that the officers see it also!!!!
But with the phone system thats really a good turn for the better being able to contact our loved ones and then to give us free minutes to help out even more through contacting our people. thank you !!!!
With the picture part , i feel a copy isnt the same as a photo of our kids or even our grandkids !!
Another thing would be nice to be able to facetime or even to take photos using our tablet to send to our loved ones , even if it was at an extra cost , this would be nice to have the availability to do !!!!!!! (11/18/2025)

3486. You stopped the mail almost a month ago yet the outright usage of K2 and whatever other synthetic drugs are currently being smoked in here 24/7 has not decreased any, in fact even if the Warden wants to lie, and obstruct the Staff from reporting the true reality of how dire the circumstances have become, it is way worse then you have been led to believe. I have been doing this for far longer then most of the current staff have even been on this Earth, and cannot remember a more worthless Administrator then this one (11/18/2025)

3487. I Don't like it at all your important information can be sent to the wrong person or peolpe,I think it is not a good Idea at all,I figured if they are worried about harmful things getting sent into prisons/jails, Then they should go after the people sending the mail a along with the people who the mail is going to.Why can't I get my birthday cards,holiday cards,letters and pictures from my family physically that means something to me,cause someone else wants to foolish,and besides that after 6months its off the tablet and your mail is destroy,What if that was the last piece of mail that you got from a love one that is no longer here on earth,That type of stuff is sentimental. So No I Totally Disagree on this.They got machines to X-Ray and Test for certain things use them and let these people get their mail, and let these workers work and do the job they get paid to do,With all do respect Nobody should have to be Punished for someone else's Foolishness, (11/19/2025)

3488. As you all know pictures and cards have some semtimental value to us, we know that as long as our pictures come from a company we can have them, what happens to our pictures and cards after they have been scanned that comes from our family and friends?
(11/19/2025)

3489. Greetings. What I think about the proposed changes to the mail and publications, etc. is not a good idea. In fact, as of right now, there is a big problem with the mail here at Vienna. Because of the issue with drugs coming into IDOC in recent years, the mailroom staff is delaying the delivery, in fear of being exposed. For example, I have a subscription to Channel Guide Magazine for a year, and each month, I get one. This month, I still have not received my issue,

and this month is almost over. That is money wasted and cannot be reimbursed for it. Because of the fear of drugs, I lose out, even though IDOC said that any publication that comes from a a vendor will come straight through, and Channel Guide is a legit vendor. It's bad enough that the mail is already slow, and with the proposed changes, it will definitely get worse. That is just the start, even the legal mail is slow. If we have a deadline, by the time we get it, our time to file whatever we need to file might be too late. So with the current state of things and with these proposals, it will be worser than before. I hope that IDOC can come up with a much better idea than this, and better staff handling and delivering of the mail. Thank you.
(11/19/2025)

3490. I believe its going to cause a huge delay in mail and mail wont be as fast getting to the inmates... Then I am a inmate who goes on court-Writs, What happens to my mail when I go To Nrc-Stateville. The mail sent to stateville will be scanned also? Because We are Not allowed to take our tablets with us when we go to NRC-Stateville (11/19/2025)

3491. I disagree with the new changes with the mail to simply punish all those prisoners who treasure the connection they have with recieving photos and greeting cards from their love ones. What should be done is a testing on each piece of mail that enters and if anything is found than criminal charges should be done. Just like if a prisoner got caught with marijuana or any other form of contraband in a prison facility. But dont simply punish everyone for those few who disregard the connection of mail. There is a deeper connection both mentally and emotinally with recieving a letter,card,or photos. Prisoners who have been incarcerated for a long period keep this pieces of mail to help reflect on that connection with that person who may or may not be on this earth anymore. We wont be able to reread our greeting cards,letters,or look back at our pictures. Basically what i am saying is to please do not punish everyone for this,theres other options that can be used instead of such.Thank you greatly for allowing me the chance to speak on this matter. (11/19/2025)

3492. I dont really want digital copies of my pictures i prefer the real ones seeing how my actual loved ones touched it so it has there essence tho in a way I understand why but with that being said why should I suffer the actions of others when I can only pay for mines (11/19/2025)

3493. I feel like our mail should remain the same way. Why change it? Some of the mail we get is value to us. When you copy it, it take the feeling out of it (11/19/2025)

3494. I feel that the scanned mail is an issuse for some Individuals in Custody based of the fact that some on us do not have tablets because they are either broken, stolen by other Individuals in Custody or the correctional officer running property has lost your tablet and do to the fact that officer has lost the tablet it falls back on us Individuals in Custody and we the Individuals in Custody would have to pay for the tablet with money we don't have. Which that would stop us form using the phone, emailing our families, check our mail and educating our selfs on edovo. (11/19/2025)

3495. I fully understand why certain changes has to be made, but this is not going to solve the bigger issue at hand. I have been incarcerated going on my 17th year with 8 more remaining.... Im blessed to still have both of my parents and have not had alot of family lost to date, I say this

because I do not get to see them often as they live in california and im here incarcerated in Illinois, its actually been over 12 years and counting since i last seen them in person. Over the years we have been able to stay in touch by mail and phone and now im losing the only physical item i can have left from them because of a issue that has nothing to do with me or my loved ones, i can only look at pictures on the tablet or maybe a photo copied print out. I feel the only people that needed to be affected by this is the ones who were involved in any activity with these situations or are being investigated. Im sure this change will not solve this huge issue, it is one plug in a big boat with many holes.....thanks for hearing me out and allowing for us to respond. (11/19/2025)

3496. I get that I.D.O.C. wants to eradicate the useage of drugs in the institions. I can't say that It's wrong to do all possible to end drug use by prisoners within the Corrections facilities. What I know, dening us confined to these Correctional Institutions the physical letter, photos, all communications from those we need in our lives puts in place further division, seperation, bariers between those confined and those whom we need to build emotional connections with. I know this sounds off. You may even ask, how is this possible? I'll tell you. Digitizing our mail takes away from us the simple knowledge and comfort in knowing that we hold in our hands the very same "commumication" someone who loves and cares about us took the time to write, stamp, seal the envelope of. Not to mention the smell that is destinctly theres, that happened to be captured in the fibers of our "communications". I don't mean chemicals put into or onto our " communications". Simply, each persons distinct scent that wafts sorounds themselves, and is breathed in by each "communication". We can no longer look at our communications and think within ourselves that who we love has touched this same "communication". The emotional presence sorrounding, contained in, and created by our familys, friends and all others who take there time to show, in a tangabole form, we matter. With out being able to hold in our hands what our beloved put effort into. What they intended for us to feel comfort from, to hold what thay held, to see the ink they chose to write us in, exctra,â€¦ This all is emotional seperating. The digitizing of our "communications" isn't just taking out of our lives the physical item sent to us. No, it also takes away the emotion spirited within, on, and around what was destined for our eyes to see, fingers to feel, and hearts to be warmed by. I'm not good at saying exactly what i feel. I DO recieve letters, photos, and other communicatons. But now, i don't recieve the emotion held within the physical mail that is mine. No, not all emotion has been restricted by the ban on our person to person communications. Though i ask, why take more good from our lives.
In closing i add. Some say you get out what you put in. I say, you take away more than you know. Sincerly, J (11/19/2025)

3497. I have been waiting for my mail since the 14th of last month. My family has sent me art materials from the approved comany. And it has been here since last month and i want to know where it is and why havent i recieved it yet. (11/19/2025)

3498. I think all picture should be able to come in and not be on the tablet there are pictures we will not be able to get again if they are remove from the tablet after so much time being on the tablet, people have love ones who may pass-a-way and that can be they only picture of them to remeber them by. Our pictures is all we have of our familys (11/19/2025)

3499. I think its wrong for them to take our mail,a letter from love ones mean alot to me,i dont

want my mail on no tablet because of they tryng to stop drugs coming into this place,i feel im being punish for someone else action.let the mail come thru,what if someone want to send me a affidavit to help me get out.i cant.send it to the courts,plus family pay for the things they send us so now we dont.lhave a choice to.send our mail back home
They just thru it away.thats wrong. (11/19/2025)

3500. I think we should still get our mail.! Because we have letters an pictures drwan by loved ones.! Which holds sentimental values.! We are are attached and will continue to be attached to our family in those ways. (11/19/2025)

3501. In the eighteen years that I've been a resident of IDOC, There's never been a question on how nearly all of the contraband gets inside these prisons. The staff are responsible. They're the way it gets in. How, in the allledged incidents of staff "exhibiting symptoms" after supposedly coming into contact with "substances, were no " substances" found in their sytems? Even when someone o.d.s, autopsies find "substances" in their bodies. This taking away our physical mail and switching to scanning mail is just a ploy to further restrict communication between "individuals in custody" and our loved ones. When Richard Speck exposed the level of corruption in the Illinois prison system, the department of corrections got caught up in having to cover up how he was able to get the drugs, and a video camera in his cell. Only staff could have provided that camera. Now, IDOC is using the fake incidents of staff coming into contact with "substances" to remove physical mail from individuals in custody. This causes rifts in families and between friends. Why would anyone want to spend their hard earned money on cards or postage when their loved ones can't even get them? Furthermore, just how much money is being kicked back to IDOC for the new phone and tablet contract? The phones are down or off or won't connect or they won' t allow the called party to accept calls etc... We're charged $0.02 a minute to use the " premium rental" on the tablet. That's $1.20 per hour. Try using that on state pay. It's a scam and a ripoff perpetuated by ICSolutions and every prison system they contract with. How many other states have switched to scanning mail? After you answer that, try to find out the real answer on whether or not the amount of contraband has really dropped in any of those states. Like CNN, it's going to be false news and lies and cover ups and hoaxes perpetuated to appease and fool the public into believing that prisons aren't corrupt and run by lazy, incompetant, ineficent, unqualifed, liars who don,t know how to do thier jobs and sleep when they're supposed to be making sure that prisons are secure. Do with this what you will. You won't believe it anyway, because you don't see it or haven't had to live it. (11/19/2025)

3502. Instead of trying to take mail away , lets do something really useful like better food and better living conditions , warmer clothes for the winter , better C/O training instead of hiring just anybody , lets hire people who actually want to rehabiltate inmates instead of hurt and abuse inmates , lets make change where its needed not changes that keep us farther away from reality! (11/19/2025)

3503. It's a slower process that should have had more training in before its use. A lot of us have been waiting over 30 days for mail that we know IS HERE, but can't get because of the slowness of the scan process. Some mail has further been denied because of marker use, such as a card that should've been scanned but wasn't. (11/19/2025)

3504. Its ridiculouse and inconvenient as well as takes away the special value of personal mail its really a reflection of the ineptitude of the department of corrections to do their job and stop any illegal substances coming into facilities and we the residents are the ones who always pay for the deparments incompatence. (11/19/2025)

3505. Scanning the mail to our tablets. Its not the greatest because they are having so much trouble already. 1) Scans of cards, pictures and papers are not a complete scan. Pieces are being cut off. 2) Mail is being delayed because of the scannig of mail. Something does need to change. But, taking away our access to our family, friends and support syestem is not right. We are already being punished for our crime by being here. We shoudnt continue to be punished and we are. Punish those who get in trouble while here not the ones who dont get in trouble. (11/19/2025)

3506. The department needs to consider that all of the individuals, legal work does not just come from attorneys, we also go Pro se, cause we can not aford lawyers, & our love ones in the free world help us with research, send in legal papers that they have of ours that we have sent to them over the yrs. That we ask them to send back to us. Witnesses send in affidavits, that we use for our cases, that we need the original copy of. I understand security, but things of that nature need to be considered, cause some of us are fighting for our lives in here. All of us don't use drugs, nor do our families use or sell drugs. (11/19/2025)

3507. After 43 years of incarceration in various institution, i was transferred to Danville CC. Before i was incarcerated, i was employed in various fields working among people from different backgrounds and race, and i never thought of them, other than they were human beings like me.
I say this to say, of course i oppose the IDOC's amendments to Part 525 of Title 20 of the Illinois Administrative Code allowing inmates to only view digitized copies of our mail or having to request hard copies instead of getting the originals
. What about non-profits who enclose self-addressed envelopes and donation slips?
. what about a keepsake card or photo from an ailing loved one?
. What about state and federal tax documents?
.What about bank and brokerage statements and tax forms which need to be filed or retained?
. What about free weekly planning calendars and religious devotionals our families send in at no cost?
. What about free books to prisoners, especially to those who have limited resources?
.What about letters of recommendations which need original signatures?
. What about clemency petitions filed by friends instead of a licensed attorney?
I currently have 11 "Mail Print Request" dating back to October 11,2025, but have yet to receive any of them. Our prison mail room must be overwhelmed. Is IDOC going to hire additional staff to handle the unintended consequences of this proposed policy? There also may be constitutional issues regarding the state's handling of mail sent through the United States Postal Service.
There is frustration and indignation here at Danville CC toward those who initiated this inane and feckless policy. The unintended consequences are huge and costlg. Please do the right thing and rescind this amendment. (11/20/2025)

3508. After reviewing the proposed changes to how non-privileged mail will be processed for

Individuals in Custody, it appears there is no exception for original documents (such as: affidavits, clemency petitions, medical records, or research materials, etc.) that may be needed for litigation by Individuals who represent themselves in court. Many Indivduals (like myself) rely on services that assist with litigation but are not run by attorneys. This is especially true when it comes to receiving help from a clemency consulting service (such as Second Chances Clemency Consulting Service) that is registered with the State of Illinois as an Limited Liability Company (LLC). Moreover, there is no indication in these rule changes exactly what empirical data or studies are being relied on to demonstrate non-privileged mail is truly the reason illegal drugs are entering the prison system. In fact, all that is being alleged as reasons for restricting non-privileged mail access are non-descript/hypothetical "threats" to institutional safety & security. No one is even suggesting for prison staff to be further scrutinized (searched) when entering the facilities for instances of staff having been caught & prosecuted for smuggling drugs/contraband into a prison. Why is THIS issue not being addressed? Instead, AFSCME has pushed & pushed this agenda to end all prisoners from receiving mail, in-person visits, & books simply to reduce the work load for staff while increasing the number of new staff hired in order to fill the Union coffers with Union Dues. No doubt about it...this is a racket. One that is rife with opportunuties for staff to abuse the rights of Individuals by making up rules as they go along & know full well there is NO meaningful means for Individuals to hold staff truly accountable...as long they violate the rules just under the threshold of what the Constitution prohibits. After all, if all that is violated are prison rules, there is no protectable right to be enforced in a court of law. As a general rule, the IDOC should carve out an exception for those Individuals who obtain assistance from legitimate (non-lawyer) business to list those people/places where mail that does come from them can be received as a pre-authenticated correspondence much like the IDOC plans to do for lawyers. This seems like a reasonable compromise to maintain the safety & security of the prisons while allowing Individuals who represent themselves to utilize non-attorney legal services that have been fully vetted by security staff for authenticity. Thank you for taking the time to read this response and for considering my suggestions. May God bless you in all abundance! (11/20/2025)

3509. Because of the change(s) surten publications are late or not being delivered. These periodicals are time and date related. For example our T.V. guides. Please fix this problem some of us are using limited funds for them. (11/20/2025)

3510. Hi, my name is Javier Garza and there is something i dont like about the new mail for IDOC. In some ways its alright because i understand, use want to stop things from coming in to the prisons, and thats understandable. But why stop us from getting pictures from commponys thats already copyed and printed and shiped to the prison that we are in. The pictures that our love ones spend money on ,sending them to a compeny that prints pictures out and send them to us. Why stop that ?? Why cant we still get our pictures through Free Prints or Pelipost ?? Its eazy for use cause use dont have to print our pictures out cause they are already printed ,u know. As far as everything else ,its good because i hate to see the guys in prisons lose there minds and die from things thats not post to be in there system. So please still let us get our pictures how we been getting them. Thank u (11/20/2025)

3511. I believe it is unjust as we should be able to recieve our actual mail as many of our love ones pass away while we do our time, pictures and greeting cards are very sentimental to us and

have no value in the world that can replace them if IDOC is deleting our pictures after a couple of months (11/20/2025)

3512. I dont agree with the new rules to our mail system. First, it has been a proven fact that nobody can become sick by simply touching the mail even if it's soaked in synthetic drugs. Second, I have seen and heard the false narrative in the falsifiction of faking fallouts. (I have never become sick and I'm around it daily and I don't use drugs.)Third, it will slow up the processing timeframe in receiving my mail. Currently, I'm waiting on mail that was sent to me almost a month. (11/20/2025)

3513. I dont like the new way that you all are doing mail. Your putting our pictures and mail on tablet. So what are yall doing with our orieinal pictures? I hope not putting in trash because that might be the only copy and we have and we cant take these tablets home. You all make mistakes all the time. Wonder if you send my mail to someone else? And I would like to keep some of my letters and pictures with me for whatever reason I like. But cant because your not giving them to me anything could happen to this internet stuff and things could get lost. Then what your going to do sbout my pictures or mail if lost??? A lawsuit waiting to happen just watch and see. (11/20/2025)

3514. I don't like the new way the mail is being done for a number of reasons. The main one is I have no idea what is being done with the actual mail. I also don't like the fact that I can't get cards any more. Those are important to me and the people who send them. (11/20/2025)

3515. I dont like the rule changes because the prison is trying to eliminate us from having bibles or other religious material sent in. Everything is being denied. (11/20/2025)

3516. I dont think this is right on many levels first it isnt fair to the people who dont use drugs also its not going to stop how the drugs are getting in the jail it only stops inmates from having phyical copys of there mail you all need to figue out another way to stop the drugs of make it to where if people take drug that they shouldnt and something bad happens to them then it should be on the person who took the drugs not the prison, staff or the inmate who gave the drug we are all adults and should be held accountable for our own actions. (11/20/2025)

3517. I feel like changing the mail make it hard for are people enter act with us, and puting are picture on the tablet is not the same as holding it in are hands ,you all delete are picture in every 6months we have picture that we can never get back. (11/20/2025)

3518. I feel like the mail should be changed back to the way it was becaus its taking way to long for us to receive anything back plus our family is taking time out of their day and spending money to send us things like pictures in the mail that we are not able to get actully copies of ! (11/20/2025)

3519. I feel that its a bad idea for many reasons one being that now it takes even longer for us to get our pictures and mail. Another reason is what happens to our pictures and what if they are mixed up with other individuals in custodys pictures? I do understand that your trying to keep

drugs and contraband out of the prison but doing this isnt slowing anything down because its still heavy in menard cc. (11/20/2025)

3520. I guess yall gone do whatever yall wanna do to us so theres no reason for me to comment on this if my voice aint gone be heard any way but thanks for the opportunity (11/20/2025)

3521. I recieved an unauthorized items sheet saying a letter that was mailed over a month ago that they are just getting around to i was not allowed to recieve because it was written in marker pen and a few days later i recieved 2 more item notices that i couldnt recieve an "" unused greeting card "" from my 86 year old mother my question was and still is if you are scanning documents now what does it matter if she wrote on the card or what it was written in not even mentioning them being ridiculously late in getting anything to me but then saying they wont even give me my mail and wont scan it it unacceptable (11/20/2025)

3522. I think the new procedure is terrible. So ify grandchildren wish to send me let say a card. Im only to cherish it when the Institution allows me to?!?! Thats not fare or right! (11/20/2025)

3523. I think we should still be able to get our cards pictures and legal mail. You are punishing everyone for something that most of us have nothing to do with and know nothing about. Putting the mail on the tablet should be illegal and against the law. (11/20/2025)

3524. I understandthe changes,the reason being but receiving mail on the tablet doesnt have the same sentimental value as receiving by hand. Holding that piece of paper in our hand or card, or even pictures are different. Then we're barely reciving the whole letter or card onthe tablet. Like the scanner isnt scanning all the way. Im missing words on my cards. So i have to guess whats the next word and i can be wrong. So i fislike the fact that our personal is being down loaded to our tablet because IDOC couldnt think of another way (11/20/2025)

3525. It would be better if we got the mail the old way because it comes faster n u know when u gone get it if i never go to the board thing on there how would i know i got mail they dont send u a message letting u know u have none neither..... (11/20/2025)

3526. Mail is done great should be descussed on any desition made. (11/20/2025)

3527. Nothing about preventing physical mail is logical. Why ? Every other State that has enacted such policy hasn't stopped illicite contriband from entering their facilities. The Illinois Department of Corrections has to look at itself, for the alleged drug issue isn't as much a mail, as it is a staffing issue. In all seriousness why is it always assumed contriband comes by way of inmates friends, family, and loved ones. There are individuals employed by the department that are actively understanding of the financial gain associated with drugs, and in many settings, they are the problem the department ignores. Taking away mail doesn't change nothing and hasn't changed anything thus far. No one is preventing staff from bringing food, drinks, and papers into the facilities. However, it is professed throughout the media that mail is laced with drugs that cannot be detected. In truth, this makes no sense when staff have witnessed individual smoking in their cells and done absolutely nothing about it. There are men and women in uniform, who totally know and understand that chemical compounds of many synthetic drugs are not illegal.

These gray areas of law permit them to operate and exploit a situation the department is quick to blame on individuals in custody. The prison population is always the blame, yet no one has acknowledged that staffing shortages, and failure to provide true oversight has permitted an undercurrent of criminality to persist between both staff and inmates alike which work in tandum to capitalize. As long as there are digital monetary platforms, and a host of way to effect communication IDOC will continue to have a drug pandemic on its hands. The fanancial incentives are far greater than the risk. Seriously, it is as if the powers that be are delusional and/or confused about the modern era of criminality. The problems that exit isn't about mail soaked with drugs. The problem exist because nothing can prevent it. Banding mail only does one thing, it impacts the majority of people who are just doing their time, trying to stay attuned with family and loved ones. Since enacting this emergency policy, I have encountered bias, excessive delays, and pure denial of personal mail at the hands of Pontiac Correctional Center. The Department is asking a question, when it has broken the law itself in preventing access to mail under the premise of an emergency. I still smell smoke, I still see transactions, and this alleged prevention through restricting physical only seem to be another tool to store and/or gather information on inmates through digitizing our mail. Policing and Investing becomes easier in this sense. In all truth this is out of the playbook of Communist China. Stop staff from bringing in anything if you are going to stop mail. Of course the department will get push back from AFSCME on that wise. Logic and reasoning has never existed in the space of Corrections, for control and power corrupts. Even the most honest know that Corrections and Corruption are byproducts and equal partners of one another. DRUGS IN IDOC IS NOT A MAIL ISSUE, THE ISSUE IS GREED. These is a people issues on both sides of the coin. You cannot legislate morality in a country built on criminality !!!!!!!! (11/20/2025)

3528. Our family members send us letters and pictures to us by hand and we cant get those anymore. The letters that yhe may take hours to write us with thier hand their smell and the emotion they put into that letter should be allowed to come into the facility and I should be able to get that letter. You can feel yhe love and emotion in the original letter and not a copy. You sometimes can smell the scent of your girl or mom or grandmother and its not fair that that only is tooken from us. The pictures are getting printed out or put onto our tablets and we cant even get them then the leave after 6 months which isnt fair bc those are memories i hold on to forvever if i have time forever. Its not fair and its cruel and unusual punishment to the majority. (11/20/2025)

3529. Recently my family.sent.me.a.calender.wich.i.get from.them.everyfew.years,my wife tealized it had a plastic coil binding it together so like the other ones she removed them and put a yarn one in place not nowing the rulea here had changed and she sent it in as the new.rule was about to take place its still in the mail room as no one told.me.to send the paperwork back on the paperwork i asked if they could remove the yarn.and just let.me.have the loose pages ots a three year calender and cost her 25,00$ not returnable as she changed it , (11/20/2025)

3530. Section 525.120 Subsection A, mail shall be delivered promptly,
I have not recieved 1 article of mail "promptly" or "without unnecisarry delay" since arriving at the facility. All mail has been post marked over a month ago. Any books ive had sent in were over a month delayed, same with pictures. This is not right. I should never have to wait over a month for something that my family spent extra money to send over night shipping. FIX THIS.

BIG MAIL AND THINGS FROM THE PUBLISHER DIREXT SHOULD BE EXPEDITED WITH NO DELAY. THATS THE WHOLE REASON YOURE MAKING IT COME DIRECT FROM THE PUBLISHER. IF THIS IS GOING TO BE DELAYED BY OVER A MONTH STILL, OUR FAMILIES SHOULDNT HAVE TO TAKE THE EXTRA STEP, OR SPEND THE EXTRA MONEY ORDERING DIRECTLY FROM PUBLISHERS ETC.. (11/20/2025)

3531. The changes to our mailing system are a complete mismanagement and an avenue for IDOC staff to abuse authority. Mail gets thrown away or returned to sender daily without any notification being sent to the individuals in custody. We only find out once we speak to our friends and loved ones who then inform us that their mail was reutrned to them without any proper notice sent to us, or reasons given as to Why they were returned. Mailroom supervisor Lamar openly admits he sends packages back, without opening them... Which is a violation of Due Process and mishandling of incoming mail.
This entire "system" only widens the gap between incarcerated peoples and any outside support. We feel even more divided and deliberately isolated from these deeply necessary support systems that help keep and create bonds, which then assists in decreasing the recidivism rates in Illinois.
These new policies were also put into place through emergency protocols, and based on claims of "drug exposure" to staff that have absolutely zero proof. There has not been a single event of "exposure" that tested positive in staff members. And we cannot continue to be held accountable for staff members who engage in their own illicit drug activities, or staff who simply are too lazy to do the job they are paid for. (11/20/2025)

3532. Freeprint is a well known photo company. Let us order from from there. Legal work/papers such as support letters for court. Let us receive that. Our love ones use an app on their phone to sent pictures to a company that sent those pictures to us. Let this happen. Thank you (11/21/2025)

3533. I believe that pictures should still be handed to the individuals in good order and quality. To be able to hold the actual pictures sent from loved ones means a great deal to many individuals who are in custody (11/21/2025)

3534. I believe this system of mail copies, and how it's going is Not good for myself & a lot of other men & women who are in IDOC! Simply because for most of us Mail Is All we have to keep our loved ones in our hearts, & if some of our loved ones pass away, it's not fair to not give me my family's Obituary or make me view it on a tablet!! They have Not did this in years past, so why Now?? Drugs & things have Always been in & out of facilities since the 1900's & STILL are so make it make sense!! (11/21/2025)

3535. I Do not like the mail change due to the fact that logan does not have the proper amount of staff to scan mail so mail is not being scanned or coming 2 months late i believe this is a hinderence connecting with familt laywers and children even legal mail is being processed slowly (11/21/2025)

3536. I don't agree that our mail and pictures should be scan. There is technology out there that the prison could put our mail thru to check for any type of contamination. There is some comfort

in holding and reading the very paper that my young son wrote me the letter on. The same goes for my 80 year old mother, I don't want a photocopy. IDOC is punishing EVERYONE for the few that actually attempt to send contraband in. Many of us are in contact with The Human Rights Defense Center and many other organizations (11/21/2025)

3537. I dont like the fact of not having things physically in my hand...the feel of a picture colored by my boys..the smell of the paper from home....its those small things i will miss...knowing im touching something my loved ones took the time to touch and send to me!...i dont like the mail changes...but its good because it cuts off the supply of dangerous drugs coming in...so its good and bad.... (11/21/2025)

3538. I feel its unfair its bias cruel and unusual punishment. Are love 1s should be able to send us direct mail that comes straight to us , NOT the facility reprinting are mail and sendingbus a copy or posting it on are tablet. What happens once are MSR arrives and we want are original birthday cards , pictures , mail were just denied due to you all not being able to detect which indiviuals in custody are smuggling that INTERNAL AFFAIRS JOB! (11/21/2025)

3539. I feel like the mail should be scanned but we should be able to get are photos because are people paid for them thank u (11/21/2025)

3540. I feel like the situation with the letters and pictures is a bad move because our family members are using their hard earned money to send us letters and pictures. And for us to receive them in either paper form or on the tablet is outrages. The pictures and letters keep us connected to the world, keeps us connected to our love ones. I just received some pictures that the jail printed on regular paper in black and white, i cant see my family through these pictures im an african amercian with african amercian family members so my pictures is hard for me to see. My other problem is will my orginal copy get put in my property so when im released i will have those pictures because i dont know what you guys do with my pictures , i dont trust you guys with pictures of my loved ones you people are creeps. I just dislike the whole opperation of the mail it needs to go back to how it was!!!!!!!! PLEASE PUT IT BACK TO THE REGULAR MAIL PROCESS PKEASE AND THANK YOU!!!!! (11/21/2025)

3541. I feel that pictures on photigraphic paper resestant to infusion of illegal/prohibited and/or contraband substances should be allowed. Scanned imsges only viewable on an electronic device do not provide an equivalent amount nor quality of emotional support as a physically held and easily accessable photograph. These support emotional wellbeing and stable mental health. (11/21/2025)

3542. I feel the mail os slowed down and its not all coming thur because of the third partying and then they deside not to sell use write outs is holding us back from sending mail out to our love ones who is not use to using todays devices (11/21/2025)

3543. I find myself commenting yet again because,things seem to change in the mailroom here on a daily basis! One minute we're told all mail and pictures received through the regular mail,will be placed on our tablet. While pictures from vendors will be given to us. The other day I received a notice saying that (4) pictures sent to me were deemed contraband because,there is

writing on the backs of them in 'marker'. The mailroom said I can't have them because of the marker writing. I'm confused,I thought those pictures were to be placed on my tablet,since they didn't arrive from a vendor! Yet,the mailroom is now saying something different,than what the Director's memo says. If pictures sent directly from my family or friends,are to be placed on my tablet,what difference does it make if the writing on them is in marker? Not to mention,it's still taking upwards of 4-5 weeks before any mail is even placed on the tablet or pictures from outside vendors are issued! While the mailroom claims they're 2 weeks behind. You send a request,it is ignored! I requested copies on october 28 and I've yet to receive those copies. I submitted a request about that to the mailroom supervisor,no response whatsoever! Not to mention,those certificates and transcripts,I'm asking to have copies of,well they arrived at this facility on september 12,2025. The Director's memo came out on the 26th. But those items were placed on my tablet on october 28. When in fact,I should've received them because they predated the memo by weeks and weren't placed on my tablet for 6 weeks! (11/21/2025)

3544. I mean its ok i guess i dont really like it though we should be able to keep the mail on our tablet for a long time. It shouldnt be delete after 6 months cause what if someone wanna go back in look at theres letter later on down the line for what ever reseaons i say that because our people could have pass away and those letters hold a lot of vaules as well (11/21/2025)

3545. I really dont think that IDOC bothering our mail in any type of way is good nor is it better in any way.Its just another way for those thats suppose to make sure we get our mail on time to not be able to do it the right way because we still not getting anything on time as it is so this change truly dont mean nothing. (11/21/2025)

3546. I think it is a good thing if it helps cut the flow of substances coming into the facilities. Rather it is in hand or scanned it is still received. (11/21/2025)

3547. I think its unnecesssary because not all of us are drug users thus we shouldn't be punished as well . I enjoy actually receiving the letters from my wife. (11/21/2025)

3548. i think the mail change is gonna be a hugh headache in the long run cause the staff at most idoc facilitys are a lil bit lazy so it already takes along time to recieve our mail. now we have to depend on them to go thru our mail them slide it in a machine to scan before we recieve it. all those extra steps todo what??? prevent drugs from coming inside the facility??Everybody including the staff knows that its not the mail inmates getting their drugs from. (11/21/2025)

3549. I think we should be able to print copies of our mail due to the fact digital is less a connection and feels so unreal at hard times inmates dont want have log in or wait early mornings when tablets unlock to feel loved (11/21/2025)

3550. I thinks its sorta stupid that all the mail will be put onthe tablets. I got something from a course on the tablets from the Edwins culinary courses and yall put the mail on the tablet.which is stupid when its a official address a real know address know by alot of people know the address is not someone who gonna send drugs to a prison l, when its know to help prisoners out an change when they get out and to better they're lives for whwn they get out. (11/21/2025)

3551. I was recently on a court writ, sent to Stateville Northern Reception Cemter, and when I returned to my parent facility (Western Illinois Correctiin Center) my mail didn't have the oppurtunity to be uploaded on to the Postage Bulletin because I was not recorded being at this facility.
My mail was photocopied and sent to me but I am missing letters that was suppose to be sent to WIL C.C. during my two weeks of being on my court writ. There needs to be a way mail can still be uploaded and reviewed.
Lastly, if someone leaves this facility wothin the six months, they should have access to their original mail thats supposed to be held for six months.
Thank you. (11/21/2025)

3552. If someone sends me a form that requires my signature and return to sender with a dead line; and u only give me a picture of my mail on the tablet the proccess to get a print out from my facility may conflict with the deadline
and just cause mail does not arrive as legal mail doesnt mean it does not pertain to someones legal situation such a affi davit containing a confession
or witness proving my actual innocence (11/21/2025)

3553. If this is about the mail i believe you are opening yourself up for a big lawsuit what if someones tablet is broken how do they get their mail i know someone in 1c whos tablet is broke and hasnt received his mail im not being smart really just trying to help (11/21/2025)

3554. Its okay but I havent been allowed to get my mail copied and sent to me, once IDOC downloaded it. I filled out the forms and sent it to the mailroom here at Lawrence Correctional center, but I havent recieved my copy I requested. How long do they have to make a copy of the mail and send it to me? (11/21/2025)

3555. Related to 525.146(a), what happens to mail once an individual in custody gets transferred to a different facility? Will the physical mail that's "held for 6 months" immediately follow an individual? Will the mailroom staff know ahead of time and send to the new facility? Will an individual have to specifically submit a request/form to have his stored mail sent to his new facility? Will a new 6 month holding/ storage initiate at the new facility based on the individual/ his old mail arrival at the new facility? What about mail that has been digitized and scanned to individual's tablets? Will an individual's mail on his tablet at one facility be available on his new tablet at his new facility? What about the many individuals in general population with no tablets, the elderly, and those who are mental who are unfamiliar or unaware about mail on the tablet? How are they to know that they hav recieved mail if no one- other individuals nor staff- check on them? The counselors certainly do not. Families are being left in the dark. Deadlines will be missed.
In regards to, Subpart C: Publications, section 525.210(e), does this include publications from family/friends (residential sources) or only commercial sources? There have been conflicting answers. Subsection (e) explains used publications with writings, notes, and containing other things will be rejected. Its contadictory and inconsistent. Most used books will contain writings, notes, highlights, and/or more. Furthermore how are we - individuals in custody - to know beforehand what will be inside of a used book? Aside from someone walking into one of few remaining book stores, even those free on the outside do not know the contents/condition of a

used book until it arrives at their door steps. Content aside, when it comes to form/condition of publications, particularly used materials, will mailroom staff have exclusive discretion of whats allowed (dog earred books, tattered/ flimsy old books, wrinkled, cover ripped/broken/missing, pages missing/dirty even if its from a trustworthy commercial source)? Again we have no way of knowing beforehand. Or will publication review staff look at the totality of the circumstances and take into account the source?
Section 525.230(b)(1) implies publisher only (commercial sources). Is that the case?
In terms of the operations of mail scanning, what has been done to address the delay when requesting physical copies of our mail? Case in point, I made requests to the mailroom here at Lawrence Correctional Center in regards to one picture and some court transripts. All have been successfully scanned to the tablet, yet per the instructions we were given, I requested a physical copy and it's been well over a month and I have recieved neither. I have sent subsequent requests and recieved no response nor my requested printouts. There are critical deadlines when it comes to courts yet there is a significant delay in us individuals recieving our requested printouts. Similarly, to be added to the deadline list and attend the law library here, individuals mush show the law library proof of a deadline. We cannot show proof if we are experincing delays getting such proof printed from the mailroom. Thus deadlines are significantly being eaten up through no fault of ours.
Lastly, what is the contingency if there is a power failure or data/security breach? (11/21/2025)

3556. So with my mail being recieved and going through the mail inspection process for drug paraphanelia. Being photo copied and sent to me through my tablet would be defeating the purpouse of me, my family and friends corresponding with eachother, because the return addresses on the envelope wouldn't be visible too me and in my possesion, also it says on the memo, after 120 days the content of the letters will be deleted, this means i wont have memories of anything given in my letters which would be important things like Parole sites, changed names, phone numbers, i will need to know, see and remember these vital things. I wouldn't know from whom the mail came, where it came from, because their wouln't be an returning address too correspond two. It doesn't explain in the proposed memo's, they will print copy's of the contents of the returning addresses of the recieved mail (envelope). My family struggeling financially means that sometimes thiers phone numbers are disconnected or even changed, i haven't spoke too my family over phones calls in almost four months because of these reasons, basically we haven't communicated in five months literally. I've just sent mail recently in hopes too hear back from my family, this is my only means of communicating with the outside world. (11/21/2025)

3557. Taking our mail away takes away the feel good feeling of getting mail. The whole point of getting mail and pictures is to physically be able to hold them and reread them when ever. Being able to smell our family on the pages. Being able to hold the same pages that our loved ones once held. People that arent locked up dont understand the meaning andnimportance of physical mail. It shouldnt be taken away. (11/21/2025)

3558. The mail should come through mail if sent from any publication thats legetimate as well as picture companies. Also legal mail needs to come directly through mail to the individual in custody. Thank you for your time. (11/21/2025)

3559. The mailing system is even more horrible but it will never change one bit anything to honestly fuck us over because they mostly hate us especially if your a sex offender they dont care about anything only a paycheck u have maybe a handful that ACTUALLY CARES thats it (11/21/2025)

3560. The way the mail system changes have caused many issues.iam enrolled in International Christian College and Seminary and i have not been able to get my exams,homework etc... the same goes for the many correspondence courses i have been in for so many years.they are supposed to be exempt,as they are from religious organizations and schooling and just like the photos coming from a publisher has been a huge issue.i hace written and not received any of the mail i jave asked for copies of since this all started.as a matter of fact,i hace not received any mail as of late on my tablet or to my cell.this has caused many problems and it is not right that we are being punished like this.please help get this fixed. Thank you,respectfully (11/21/2025)

3561. This causes to not keep personal letters and Picture mail from family to self which is overwhelming ,due to the need of if wanting to have all letters and pictures upon MSR you dont have it,you not able to have it in your hands which gives good joy ,everyone shoudnt be hold accountable for actions caused . (11/21/2025)

3562. This is a way to stop us from getting mail since at one point the mail was being throwed out. Lazyness and now they have made it inpersonal. Anorher way for us to be depressed. (11/21/2025)

3563. While safety is the most important issue, so is having an alternative that's going to work as advertised. I requested to have mail that was sent to me copied which consists of a case & some photos that I need as proof to support my claims in a petition that I'm filing for actual innocence & I have yet to receive the copies. It has well over three weeks since I requested the copies. Also if this is going to be IDOC's permanent solution, then individuals in custody should be able to send the actual mail sent out once it has been scanned & have the option of being able to have the svanned items removed from the tablet instead of having to wait six months til the institution wipes it from the tablet. (11/21/2025)

3564. It is what it is, and since it is, it would be a descent thing if mailroom personnel would do their job with even a hint of respect for one's personal mail: i.e., scan the contents of an envelope on a single page on the tablet; scan both sides of the letterâ€”even if blank as well as both sides of cards; honor requests for copies without smart-assed responses claiming to having already done so; label the documents instead of leaving every piece of mail as "UNKNOWN"â€”we cannot locate a single document, or page 5 of a letter hidden within 50 "UNKNOWN" titles that have no PDF numerical order; stop throwing mail away, personal mail hasn't suddenly stopped because it's now electronic. The only solution, as I see it, is to turn this tablet in so that my mail has to be photocopied and delivered. You took a big part of something away personal to all of us. (11/22/2025)

3565. Hello. I think that the mail / tablet should be for those who are gangbangers, afiliated drug dealer, gangbanger drug dealers and drug addicts. IDOC puts all inmatets in the same CRIMINAL category of those who are career criminals with drug history. Its insulting. I do not

get much mail any way, but when i get a letter from a friend, id like to have it. To hold it and read. Also. Is the senders information going to be available before i open the download? Is the original envelope with address going to be available to view? What if an old friend, sends me a letter that i do not have thier address, and its on the envelope and they did not write thier return information on the body of the letter itself. Also, almost every day i log onto the tablet, it says i have several new buletin board messages. When i look, there are none. I open each individual sub category and hit the sync button and nothing. Same thing as the day before. Very rarely is there an actual new message. ICS should make a NEW ICON (MAIL) and it should be just for MAIL. When log into the tablet, i can look at the MAIL icon and open it, not the entire buliten board that now has TWO different places to look for scanned mail. And the MAIL icon should be available on BOTH the paid and the free sections of the tablet. Thank you. (11/22/2025)

3566. By removing the mail scan process it would speed mail back up, ive been waiting for a letter for over a month also when a person writes a letter theres a sentimental value that comes with the time it took to write that letter then there are pictures that may be originals of family that have passed away that are irreplacable. There are many reasons why the mail should not be scanned, but there is only one reason why idoc wants to scan mail and thats because of there focus on contraband(drugs)and scanning the mail is not gonna stop whats been going on in prisons for decades this is only another form of control and a delay in our mail process that effects us and costs more money to implement cause now the state has to pay for the equipment and staff for the mail scan process , not to mention the copying and storing of said mail. Scanning our mail should be 100% illegal. (11/23/2025)

3567. Have no comments (11/23/2025)

3568. Having our mail scanned in instead of receiving it physically is a horrible course of action. The mail I have received on the tablet has been hard to see and part of the card my son sent me was cut off and when I requested it be fixed it was ignored. Also, older adults will be unable to use the apps allowed to send us books and pictures. Finally, it is very depressing to no longer receive mail. One of the only things we look forward to in prison is mail time and taking that from us will lead to negative consequences. Please give us our mail back. (11/23/2025)

3569. howdo we get a place onto the list as a bookstore or recognized publication? (11/23/2025)

3570. I am one hundred percent opposed to the proposed mailscan order. It has already been implemented here at Henry Hill Correctional Center and has not contributed one iota to reducing the amount of drugs enterring the facility. What it has done is unequivocally trample all over my constitutional rights, denied me access to court records, disrupted my communications with friends and family which have had severe negative impacts on my relationships with people in the community. IDOC cannot competently manage so many facilities at normal operations in the best of times, and cannot follow mail processing time frames without this mailscan scam. Now with it, instead of giving us our mail in 48-72 hours as is required by the IDOC Administrative Directive, I am receiving mail several months after the postmark. For instance last week (Nov. 19 or 20, 2025) a letter postmarked/ sent to me by a friend on Sept. 4, 2025 was placed on my tablet after two months. I am also missing mail from even before that because mailroom staff was allowing mail to pile up for weeks and months in anticipation of mailscanning. If the IDOC

lacks the competent staff to process mail normally and mail scanning adds numerous steps to the process then it doesn't take a genius to know that that is not a system that will work. Moreover, the facility is refusing to provide copies of the mail being withheld. This is also a detriment to our ability to litigate our legal cases pro se. IDOC also lacks the competency to replace equipment, so if it takes two years to replace a dish washer, what happens when the scanner breaks? Are we to wait two years for our mail? The main excuse for the need for this policy is also a hoax. No staff were falling out from physical contact with mail, nor from second-hand inhalation. If either were possible, everyone incarcerated would also be passing out from second-hand inhalation, and anyone wanting to sell or buy it in prison would fall out from touching it. The tests by the Illinois State Police of the paper, clothing of COs, etc. all came back negative. Nor does scanning the mail decrease CO exposure, it actually increases the amount of handling necessitated by staff. In the months since they stopped our access to physical mail the amount of that type of drug has not reduced at all. Moreover, it never will when every CO can make a thousand dollars per sheet of paper that they smuggle in with that drug on it. If it is really such a problem and an emergency, then in addition to mail scanning every Correctional Officer and volunteer and administrative staff needs to be stripped searched before coming into the facility every day. If they say that that is not necessity then neither is mail scanning. This will also lead to increased litigation costs as myself and numerous others file lawsuits over the denial or delay in giving us our mail in violation of our First Amendment and other rights. The IDOC needs to close at least ten prisons just to be able to sufficiently staff its facilities and provide people their constitutional rights. Mail scanning is a scam perpetrated by private interests and unions trying to create jobs, or use a fake "emergency" for their own political or monetary gain. If you really wanted to reduce the drugs coming into the facility through the mail, you would have given is the email with attachments application like the contract with IC Solutions requires. This alone would have greatly reduced the amount of physical mail coming in, which would have allowed for more effective screening of the remaining mail, thereby catching more of the drugs and reducing the amount enterring through the facility. Instead, we have no email capablitiy anymore let alone the ability to receive attachments, meaning a lot more physical mail coming in reducing the time staff has to inspect it and increasing the time it takes (and staff needed) to scan all of the mail. This mailscan policy is also preventing me from being able to pursue my Masters Degree through the mail, is effecting my ability to get bank deposit slips, and numerous other things. (11/23/2025)

3571. I believ honestly that its our right of privacy. Our loved ones send pictures for us, to show love. To even show support! More so some people have to watch there family and kids grow older or get taller through pictures. Having them on the tabelet defeats the entire purpose. (11/23/2025)

3572. i dont like it, nor do i agree with it. some, well most of us get photos, cards, or letters from our loved ones that we would like to have the original copies of. they are meaningful to us. some are elders and dont know how to get on an app and send us pictures from their phones. i do not agree with this system. i feel like, once again one person ruined it for all. (11/23/2025)

3573. I dont like the fact we cant get our photos (11/23/2025)

3574. I Feel The Change In Mail Not Functional Although I Understand The Reasoning For

Certain Changes I Feel This Wasnt Plan Or Thought Out In My Opinion Because The Mail Is Sent From Sender To Facality Which Is Sent To Springfield Then Sent Back To Facality. My Mail Took Over Month To Be Sent Too Me With Pages/Documents Missing. This Is Unfair And Needs To Be A Better Way To Fix The Problem At Hand. Thank You (11/23/2025)

3575. I hope its faster (11/23/2025)

3576. I just recieved legal mail on 11/20/25 here in Vienna C.C. around 4:45PM and the mail put all my legal mail (including a copy of my check on the tablet) as far as i am aware any legal mail sent by a lawyer is considered a priority and it is illlegal to do what they did.
A grievence has ben file and my lawyers contacted.
This new mail rule is just an easy way for the prison system to screw us over, this new mail rule should be banned.
If the prison is worried about drugs in the facilitys then start pressing charges on those doing it with stricter law and sentecting. (11/23/2025)

3577. I love it here (11/23/2025)

3578. I think IDOC should go back to the old system when it comes to the mail and publication, because individuals have been getting other people mail and that cause problems. For example, if i get some pictures sent to me but the wrong person receive them and the pictures get on there tablet, that person could be a sex offender and he might do some werid things with them. Alot people in this world is sick so having pictures of somebody else kids, siblings, girlfriend, e.t.c without them knowing is a major problem and people could get hurt behind that.
Thats just my opinoin on why the mail and publication should back to the old way. (11/23/2025)

3579. I think it will be great (11/23/2025)

3580. I think it will stop drug paraphenalia from entering the prison. (11/23/2025)

3581. I think that IDOC is taking proper steps to helping individuals in furthering their education. (11/23/2025)

3582. I think the idea of our mail being digitalized is wrong on many levels, when our family send pictures of them selves and our kids, those physical pictures are semtimental to us opposed to digital pictures. (11/23/2025)

3583. I think the mail should not be tampered with. If somebody takes advantage of it, punish the individual. Taking mail away effects everybody, letters,pictures and greeting cards hold sentimental value. (11/23/2025)

3584. I think with the mail being backed up still at logan, who does the scanning should scan the envelope, and the card/letter(front and back) all at once and put everything and send all at once instead of seperate. Also, when scanning they should be putting the name instead of unknown so that way we know who it is... With the scanning as well its very unorganized and we have to wait even longer to get our mail, and when they scan, sometimes they send the wrong

mail to others, i dont think thats right and should be addressed. Why cant we get some sort scanner for the mail to go through just to see if some type of substance is in the mail that way it can b detected. (11/23/2025)

3585. I will like for the mail room to open back up cause my mail dont come on time . i feel violated not everybody is doing wrong.why im i being punish for something im not apart of, (11/23/2025)

3586. I would like my mail sooner. (11/23/2025)

3587. I would like to recieve my mail presonlly. What would happen if IDOC put my mail on the wrong tablet? I tell you, that would not be a good look for some one jail. This is a mass up mail system IDOC is doing. They not thinking this thang through! At some point you have to become consciously aware that you are creating an Dis-Harmony within the mail system that might cause fighting between us who recieve the wrong mail. We will be thinking you have my family info, so can write or do anything to them. THIS IS NOT SAFE!!! REMOVE THIS NEW MAIL SYSTEM A.S.A.P! THANK YOU (11/23/2025)

3588. It is very dumb that you are take away are real letters from family .... (11/23/2025)

3589. Its not okay to put our mail on the tablets you take away from the intimacy of recieving a letter and smelling just a scent of home of the loved ones (11/23/2025)

3590. No matter how often i request a print out of the scanned mail i never get one. The pages scanned are never in numerical order & 1 page is always upside down from the next. These are booklets, religious in nature coming from publishers.
(11/23/2025)

3591. On October 27 I received a scanned mailing on my tablet from "TV Weekly". On the scanned image of the outer envelope was written " R27821-100625-1" which I understand to be my IDOC I.D. number and the date(10-06-25) this mailing arrived at Pinckneyville C.C. That would make 21 days or 3 weeks from its arrival at P.C.C. until the day it appeared on my tablet. It was an offer for a discount price for a yearly subscription and requested "Reply by 10/22/25", six days BEFORE I received it for an over $40.00 discount for an annual subscription. This delayed scanned mail cost me over $40.00! It has been almost 2 months of scanning the mail and I haven't seen any decrease in drug use. Maybe only a decrease in REPORTED incidents. This tablet is NOT free. I don't want to depend on it for mail, for e-mail, for the phone. (11/23/2025)

3592. Pictures Should Still Come In The Mail As They Use To And If All Correspondence That Get Sent To Us Go On The Tablet Then We Need To Be Able To Bring Our Tablets Any Where Through The Prison . (11/23/2025)

3593. Scaning mail is flawed as not all of my letters pages are scaned or only a half page...this has happened more then twice now, also there is no way to lable your mail so once you have 30+ letters good luck finding one you might want or need to reread....I prefer reciving my mail at my

door..Thank you (11/23/2025)

3594. SUBJECT: Proposed changes to Department Rule on Mail and Publications. The Illinois Department of Corrections published a First Notice of proposed changes to 20 Ill. Adm. Code 525, Subpart B and C, regarding mail and publications, in the Illinois Register, Volume 49, Issue 41.
The following input is submitted:
- Page 2 of 27.
8) Does this rulemaking contain an automatic repeal date ? No.
NOTE: This rulemaking should mandate its' own review every three years.
- Page 9 & 10 of 27.
d) Individuals in Custody shall not be permitted to open, read or deliver another individual in custody's mail without that person's permission.
NOTE: Change statement to read - 'without that person's written permission.
- OPINION/NARRATIVE.
It is my belief that this proposal to scan all mail for electronic delivery to the inmate population, in an effort to potentially stop synthetic drugs from entering prison, is a complete waste of time and money. This 'pipe dream' is typical of IDOC's 'Ready...Fire...Aim' approach to problem solving and, I also believe that it is already on a path to failure. I am very offended at this proposed intrusive process; I believe that I am being punished for something that I do not participate in.
I have no sympathy or empathy for employee's and staff who constantly whine about the possibility of coming into contact with synthetic drugs in this prison environment. The reason for my lack of empathy is because a great many of these same employee's and staff members show absolutely no empathy whatsoever for people like myself and thousands of other inmates in and around IDOC who also express no desire to participate in this abhorrent activity and are forced to live amongst this 'health hazard' and its' resulting 'second hand smoke' at the same time that staff were taking it upon themselves to prohibit issuing protective masks and ignoring requests and recommendations to create 'smoke free' cell houses and cell house wings.
IDOC has all of this ICSolutions technology at their disposal and the best that they can come up with is to have more manpower manhandling 'snail mail' just to scan it and electronically send it to the inmate population. The ICSolutions Score 7T tablets have features already installed that, if properly used, could streamline this process. There is an unused Photo Album app available on the tablet's Standard (Free) Portal. Why couldn't the email/text programs be tweaked to allow family members to upload and attach Photo's and even E-Cards to emails & texts to be sent directly to their incarcerated loved ones. Instead of manually manhandling Photo's & Cards, the email attachments (Photo's & E-Cards) need only electronic screening by on-site staff and would save time, manpower and money in the short and long term. Why not tweak the Photo Album app to allow inmates to download those screened Photo & E-Card attachments from the email/texts directly into the Photo Album. If the inmate wanted a copy of their Photo(s), E-Cards or anything else, why not activate the 'print' functions & features that are currently disabled and use this capability in the same manner as when inmates could have emails printed on the old GTL tablet. The whole thing is a win-win and would reduce staff involvement and grievances while giving the inmate population more oversight and creating a data trail to address errors and correct problems if any were to occur. Who knows, if ICSolutions and/or IDOC were to offer a good selection of E-Cards for this purpose, they might actually make an honest buck.

Making maximum use of the technology would also result in cost savings for family members and inmates since they wouldn't have to subsidize the greeting card industry or the snail mail services with their ever rising costs. (11/23/2025)

3595. The booklets (which are religious& from a publisher) are never in order (page wise), & each page is reverse (upside down) from the other. It takes more time finding the right order than it does to read it. Whenever you make the writing bigger it blurs it which is horrible on ones eyes. (11/23/2025)

3596. The change in mailing is not right. When ppl send me mail, it becomes my property. What happens to my property after its scanned and put on the tablet? Thrown in the garbage? Thats not right. Then, u say u took the mail bc of weapons being hidden in books and other reason that are not true. I noticed u didnt say how officers are bringing the drugs into the Institutions! Ur good at keeping that off the record. U lie to the public and make it sound as if we're smuggling weapons via mail. U want my honest opinion? U taking the mail, is just another way to dehumanize us and treat us like real slaves. Lets be honest, this survey and most things offered by the Department are just for show. Nothings gonna become of a bunch of p.o.s. inmates views. I mean, u guys lie to the public to push this bs agenda, so its clear ur never gonna give us our mail back, so whats the point? Truth is, Illinois is mostly corrupt and yall the ones that need to be in jail. U dont care NOTHING about us and how we feel. U make it clear with the lack of accountability of officers constant misconduct. Yall worried about us using drugs but there are employees that have open cases, getting fired for illegal conduct, and actively using drugs themselves. Man, idoc whole mission statement is a joke and so is this bs. Take the mail! Take everything from us! Take our electronics too! Take our recreation (wait u already do that with the constant excessive lockdowns). It dont matter to me. Ive got over 22yrs in and NOTHING idoc has ever done been able to BREAK ME AND NEVER WILL! go ahead and take the mail. All ur doing tho, with all the bs u do, is creatind real lasting resentment that most offenders will take back out to the world and take out on ppl that had nothing to do with it but yall dont care about that bc ur not affected. (11/23/2025)

3597. The facility should give us back regular mail as this is not properly working here at Lawrence C.C. inmates being able to get there mail prints as I requested mine weeks ago!!!No response so I grieved the issue.The mail room allows guys to have porno magazines but not a high school diploma!!!!Its insane!!!#A certificate of achievement and education is more important!!!!!! I should be able to have it in the physical form and not on a dumb ass tablet!!! (11/23/2025)

3598. The mail room is not printing my mail on request and wont give me my high school diploma!! (11/23/2025)

3599. The mail scan policy is not an issue with me, but where the problem arises is when I made 2 seperate requests to have my scanned documents printed and to date those requests have NOT been fulfilled. Individuals like myself is representing myself in court and now because of the failure for the mailroom to fulfill printing requests, this creates a road block and an unnecessary delay in retrieving critical legal documents which I need to go forward in court with. Photos need to be allowed to come from trusted photo Companies like freeprints, Pelipost,

walgreens etc. (11/23/2025)

3600. The mail system is a failure on every level. First and Foremost , the letter or photo sent by family member is not the same when scanned and sent to tablet. It takes the authenticity out of the equation. Next , it takes more time, labor and money to process inmate mail , lastly , the reason for this has not slowed down any drug problems inside the institution where im currently incarcerated at. I believe we should get physical mail back and look more internal as far as the concerns of drugs getting into the institution. (11/23/2025)

3601. The mail system is slow its taking 6 to 7 days to get mail (11/23/2025)

3602. The mail to go on the tablets shoud be more concentrated on paper
mail which is more of the problem. The more sentimental mail like post cards, greeting cards, & pictures should be sent as normal. The magazines & any other mail coming from a known facility should always be sent as normally. Now I take paper based courses
from a school named American School in Lansing, Illinois, & I need my home work sent to me as normal. Because they have a second
chance honor system, where as if you score low than you should they send your home work & they tell you to make corrections on what you got wrong & send it back & what ever you get the second time is the grade you get. So I need my paper home work from school to come to my cell as normal so that I may do what they tell me to do. Its costed me alot of monyey to take this high school program from American School, the school has already sent me mail & I didn't know until I was surfing my tablet & saw I had mail posted. The correction facility said it was goin' to let through mail that came from a legitiment institution to us as normal, but, it hasn't just the publications. My important concern is my paper based school work & my pictures + greeting cards.Those things have sentiment value & importance. Thanks for your time to read this comment.
approved school, the is (11/23/2025)

3603. The name should be Back To The Future! (11/23/2025)

3604. The new mailing system is not working well. All your mail doesnt come to the tablet. I havent gotten none of my mail since this system has been put to use. My family have been writting me & sending me picture and i havent gotten them. (11/23/2025)

3605. The purpose of this change was to be for all of the right reasons of safety measures not to take advantage & the IDOC are taking advantage due to the fact that legal work is on the tablet instead of being in my possession. Now with that being said personal information from my case is coming & i have to wait on the mail to get here & then have to wait on the IDOC to print it out whenever that may be & wait on them to send it to me when the judge name is on there & i go to court every month for this & this isn't apart of the agreement which is a breach, fraud, & infingement & this need to be what IDOC STATED what was gonna happen with the legal mail. (11/23/2025)

3606. The scanning of mail, photos & other publications is a Joke! I have NEVER received ANYTHING on my tablet yet as on 11/23/25! No photos no mail & my family has sent these

items to me at the beginning of September. (11/23/2025)

3607. The U.S. Supreme Court in Thornburgh v. Abbott, 490 U.S. 401 (1989) rules that prisiners have a First Amendment right to receive their actual, physical mail. The sentimental value of a card, picture, etx., is priceless. And the memorandum announcing the digitizing of said mail states that "the original mail shall be stored for six months." What sense does it make if mail is suspected of being laced but stored for six months, for over 1,500 Imdividuals in Custody? Where would all this mail even be stored and who would do all this work? Sounds as if the staff here, like always, want another pay raise and to have more of their family hired. The perfect example of how this will cut ties to our support systems which is what IDOC employees really want is the fact that many elderly people are tech illiterate and so they utilize snail mail as they have done for decades. A support team and education are the two factors for a successful rehabilitatuon, a low rule infraction prison, and successful reentry into society. Additionally, this new ADM CODE prohibits all but books and magazines and newspapers from the publisher and if even auspexted of being damaged they will be returned. Also, it infringes on our First and Sixth Amendment rights to try to engage counsel for criminal, civil, and other cases we may be filing. Nor is it ADA compliant, nor does it translate anything into a non-engliah speaking person's language. Finally, this was all done (as the memorandum states) due to "suspician" of laced mail. However, as was easily debunked, when IDOC employees go to the hospital for "suspected" laced mail they are immediately sent home. Yet, on August 14, 2025, 49 Ill. Reg. 10945 was adopted without notice to the public and comment and without engagement with legal, religious, educational, advocacy, and loved ones communities most impacted. So my question to you is why spend all the same peoples tax dollars and some of your own to defend the litany of lawsuits that will ensue if this ADM CODE becomes permanent? (11/23/2025)

3608. There has been other states that has implamented digitalizing mail on the tablet in the past ten years. And the results are not what would be expected . In fact the number of disciplinary infractions increased after the implamentation of digitalizing the mail . There was no decrease in the medical assistance being provided .
Frankly , digitalizing the mail , does not stop all the other contraband that is also been found inside the correctional facilities - smartphones , smartwatches , cocaine , meth , tobbacco and etc. Let 's not forget about staff being charged and convicted of bringing in the aforementioned contraband . As well as all the other contraband that is found in these facilities . Where those individual in custody are being deprived of all their famly mementos and such . Not to mention the seriously untimely delivery of the mail within the facilities .
The security staff has been found to be providing false information , as to staff being exposed to whatever so called drug ; yet there is not more exposure reports by those individuals in custody . (11/23/2025)

3609. This is unfair (11/23/2025)

3610. What will be done with the pictures that i family members send into us? (11/23/2025)

3611. When an inmate smokes drugs and gets caught then their cell mate gets taken to segregation also which isnt right. Staff doesnt care if they put u in a cell with someone who does drugs and doesnt protect you at all! I am just as worried as staff about getting exposed to whats

going around in the department of corrections. I wanna know why i havent been exposed when the day room was smelling like smoke when i was in shawnee cc along with big muddy river also...i havent been here 3 days and its all over where im at and doesnt seem to slow down with the mail being stopped and im in fear of getting exposed when its all around me. I guess when it happens to me i hope i dont die. And they need to actually do something to people caught smoking and have real concequences, the only thing that happens is they go to seg and get right out and smoke more and stopping the mail does ABSOLUTLY NOTHING!!!! Its still here and i have no choice to be around this aweful desgusting shit and hope i dont die. I wish staff would thouroghly screen individuals and charge them when caught amd not charging the other guy in the cell (11/23/2025)

3612. Why are they stoping pictures from coming in when we trying to see our love ones? (11/23/2025)

3613. Why we all have to suffer for a few peoples mistakes. (11/23/2025)

3614. It wont work. (11/23/2025)

3615. I don't get wi - fi in my cell or everywhere and it's not the same as holding mail\photos that my loved ones once held and wrote and I now hold.These are a few things that would'nt be available with no wi-fi or on level one lock-downs which happen too much. (11/24/2025)

3616. Because of the envelopes being scanned and then the card or letter the bottom of my card or letter is being cut off so l don't get to read the whole letter. And sometimes they are scanning letters from three or four different people so to go back and find someones letter to reread is hard. With the exception of 3 out of at least 18 letters all are being posted as coming from unknown so when l am responding to someone l have to search every unknown letter to find the letter l am responding to. Not to mention that l can no longer keep a letter, card, picture colored by my grandson, or a picture of my friends or family because they disappear off the tablet in 6 months. I know you say we can have free copies however our mailroom personel says he does not have the equipment to make copies so we don,'t have the ability to keep special things (11/24/2025)

3617. Dont like mail scanning need to feel actual letters from family, loved ones, to feel close to them etc..mail scanning violates detainees constitutional state & federal rights (11/24/2025)

3618. Federal law prohibits anyone other than the person addressed to open mail. Lawsuits have been filed in other states and they have sided with the incarcerated population. (11/24/2025)

3619. Greetings, i want to start with saying i really appreciate the opportunity to share our comment on the new mail system. Honestly, I hesitated to even bother commenting because I figure it would not make a difference and that is why i have waited until the last minute. Overall I decided that I would rather take the time and effort to give my input on this matter. So to start, i feel the reality of this new procedure is 100% bogus there is no way the I.D.O.C. facilities will be able to handle all of the requirements that must be followed. As for a prime example I was at an important stage of my direct appeal because i filed a (PLA) that is a motion aka legal mail. So

my point is that this facility went ahead and posted my legal mail from the supreme court on the tablet postal mail bulletien. So by the simple fact that i do not usually get any personal mail it did not occur to me to sync the postal mail especially by me having the impression that legal mail is excluded from personal mail because legal should be opened infront of that individual amd that never happened for me and i don't if i should write a grievance or how to go about it that's why I am glad for i had the chance to speak up on here. Now what happened to me is that this mail room recieved my PLA back in the beginning of sept. And since i had no notifications what so ever i didn't check my mail until towards the end of oct. Now there goes two months out of the 3 that i have to prepare for the next motion. This mistake could have been prevented if the mail room did their part on handling it how they are supposed to. I can only imagine the more several mistakes to come for other inmates that are slowly adjusting to this new advanced electronic tablet system. I say that because I am for the most part up to date with today's technology compared to others that are not. I hope I make sense and that you consider my experience with the next step that follows. Thank you for your time. (11/24/2025)

3620. I do not veiw this situation no differ than text messaging. (11/24/2025)

3621. I dont like it because this facility is always behind (11/24/2025)

3622. I feel as the mail on the tablet aint making know diffrents. There are still drugs coming into Dixon C. C. and staff aint doing anything about it. They need to find a better punishment for people who get cut with drugs are having episots. (11/24/2025)

3623. I feel that if the institution is dead set on this practice of scaning non-priv. Mail then a few modifications to the rules should be made. If we never get to handle or touch our non-priv mail then we should be allowed to receive home made cards and coloring pages that our childen color for us and glittercards, as they are going to be scanned and not actually handed to us. I also feel that we should be allowed the opportunity to send any and all originals back to sender after scanning as this has always been the practice. Keeping our original mail for six months and then destroying it seems to be a bit extreme and would take up alot of space to store, when an individual could just pay for postage to return the item instead.(Easier on the mail room easier on us.) I also feel that we should still be allowed Calendars, and to order cards to mail home as long as they come from a legitamte company. (11/24/2025)

3624. I feel to Eliminate Paper mail is not justified all individuals in custody not bringing drugs into the institution so why sould all be punish . Some things have sentimental value for example lile an obituary Its not okay to copy and obituary or to make it digital.An copy Obituary is not the same as the original copy especially on paper Yes somethings are okay to copy but majority not our support system in the free world spend to much money and time on creating things and buying them for us to have them tainted with or tooken based on an Illusion that all immates or bringing drugs in here so for those who are copy they mail but dont start off making everyone Accountable for another person Wrong doing (11/24/2025)

3625. I have been at Pinckneyville C.C. since 2009 and have saw all the changes first hand. As to the mail being the source of entry for the drugs, that is nothing more than a LIE !!! I direct your attention to the mail room where mail room staff handles "each" piece of mail but has not

alleged contamination from any mail, I WONDER WHY ??????? If a piece of mail has been found to be contaminated, why has'nt the person the mail was addressed to been held accountable ?????? Finally, ifvthe mail is the source of entry and no mail is being delivered, why (emphasis added), are individuals falling out enmass, and, why are there clouds of smoke on the wing constantly ????? In addition, why isn't there a press release when staff is apprehended bringing drugs into the facility ????? The simple solution to your drug problem is to sell EATABLES on the commissary !! You end the need for indivuals to seek the illicit killer drugs and raise a shit load of money to fund multiple projects, after all, Eatables are LEGAL !! (THINK ABOUT THE POSSIBILITES)
(11/24/2025)

3626. I have not recived my mail in a timely manner nor all of it. I am still waiting on parcels arrived on Sept 28th. Also disagree with photos not being copied on photo paper and needing to be requested. We should receive this automatially. (11/24/2025)

3627. I rather have physical greeting cards sum things hold senimental value that u cant get from looking on your tablet (11/24/2025)

3628. I strongly disagree about the proposed new mail procedure it is our american right to recieve mailing regularly and should be able to actual letters and greeting cards and pictures from family, friends and loved ones. (11/24/2025)

3629. Id rather have my actual mail (11/24/2025)

3630. It makes no sense it is just another form off control !!! We just gone tell our people dont send us no mail (11/24/2025)

3631. Its illegal to tamper with people's mail. (11/24/2025)

3632. The fact that mail was already getting thrown out, ut concerns me that now we cant even physically get it. Seems to me its the prison making their jobs harder then they havr to.i wish they would goto scanning it instead. (11/24/2025)

3633. The proposed amendments are totally arbitrary and unnecessary blanket punishment on individuals who did not abuse there mail privelages, because either staff did not properly perform their duties in the first place or (as I suspect) as another way to generate money for the Prison Industrail Complex. The listed ways of smuggling contraband into the facilities are obviously just made up to justify the arbitrary abuse of power being implemented, because there are no identifiable instances or percentages given to those outlandish claims. And how is mail scanning going to stop drones flying in all this contraband? Furthermore subsection 6 shows "no published studies or reports were used when composing this rulemaking," because the data actually shows the opposite of what is claimed. Then it goes on to LIE that no changes in procedure are required for compliance in subsection 13, and "does not present an adverse impact on small businesses" in 14. The actual rules being changed are also conflicting. Section 525.120(e) states "no disciplinary restrictions shall be placed on an individual in custody's mail privelages," but that is exactly what is being done! Section 525.145 is totally arbitrary and

unreasonable. Section 525.220 does not even define the words and phrases used in subsection (b)(6) but I would like an explaination on how they couldn't be used totally arbitrarily, and abused, to disapprove anything in subsection (a). Thereby negating it all together. (11/24/2025)

3634. The rule change on mail is understandable to an extent but some people have real documents sent in that we fill out sign && date it & send back out to be processed . Such As Court Papers , Lawsuits , Applications and so forth , that cant happen if document is scanned and put on tablet. Also pictures that are scanned is taken away from a persons personal property and threw away which isnt fair . People dont get "Chemical Laced" pictures of loved ones and kids that dont make sense. (11/24/2025)

3635. There needs to be some sort of clarification on procedure when it comes to photos ordered from a buisness source. Although there is a review orocess for books and magazines, such as the publication review, there isn't anything for photos. I'm refrencing the photos ordered from various photo companies such as "Doll", " Vixen", "4the pack", or " CNA Entertainment" just to name a few. They sell us nonnude and nude photos. Nothing worse that what we could get in a magazine. But the mailroom seems to decide what is acceptable, with no way for us to grieve the issue. Any complaints about the mail room taking photos out and "pink slipping" us with the rational of saying that they are "nude/inappropriate", and then the complaint going to the mailroom for judgement. How can the people who are causing the issue be the ones who respond to the complaints? And thier rational is completely arribitrary depending on thier mood or attitude that day. Some people will get certain photos, and then when other people order that same photo, they get denied. There needs to be a section in the code to give some guidance to what is and is not acceptable. And to take the power of decision away from the mail room and have a proper review of any questionable photos like the publication review. And I mean photos from a approved company, not personal photos. Just to note, the companies listed above were considered " approved vendors" that we were supposed to be able to order and recieve photos without mailroom interference. Yet they still do so. That's it. (11/24/2025)

3636. These proposed changes to our mail system are illegal, restrictivd, inhumane, unconstitutional, and violate well-established rights regarding prolerty, legal mail, attorney/ client confidentiality, and will have absolutely NO measurable or identifiable reduction of contraband or drugs/weapons entering prison (IDOC) facilities!!! As long as human beings work here at lawrence, contraband and drugs/weapons will be easily assessible to the inmate population; especially here at L.C.C., the most corrupt facility in the state. As to the proposed new procedures, of scanning incoming mail,and making it available to inmates upon written request... This is fraudulent, which is easily exposed by MY tablet account,RIGHT NOW... As a total of (18) pieces of mail has been scanned onto my tablet since October 1st....And, although I have submitted (7) witnessed, written requests, to be provided with a copy of ALL pieces of scanned mail, I have received NONE!!!!!!!!!!
Furthermore, a brief review of all (18) pieces of my mail which the mailroom dept. has seized, held hostage, and REFUSED to provide me a copy of, are ALL legal in nature, ALL legal documents, being withheld from me, in several civil and criminal cases I am litigating, and party to!!!! This, alone, violates the constitution, and my rights, and has caused and inflicted significant harm, injuries, and, damages! Also, as you can see, (4) of the (18) pieces seized and scanned, are "Certified Mail" packages of mail, which prove violations of IDOC's own policies

and directives ,which require ME to sign for receipt of certified mail!!! Another disturbing FACT is, that many of the (18) pieces of mail currently scanned and seized, and NOT provided to me, are legal documents,forms ,records, and evidence, that I am required fo send or file with the courts.....Yet, I can't, because the mailroom intentionally, maliciously refuses to provide any copies to me, and is now destroying them, in retaliation to grievances I have filed... These changes to our mail procedures are illegal, unconstitutional, and ,I strongly object to the current proposal, and, demand that my seized (18) pieces of scanned mail be IMMEDIATELY delivered to me!!!!!! (11/24/2025)

3637. This place and ALL the starf here are not following the rules and guidelines that were put in place for this emergency rule. They are sending stuff back without notiifing us or the sender. They are refusing mail. Ther are no set procedures to follow when mail is considered controband. The mail is over 2 months behind. Sometimes you never receive the mail our families send and have no idea where it is or goes. Even if your family paying extra for a tracking # you still dont get it. The greivance process does nothing becauce the mailroom staff lie and no one ever looks into it. Plus the 2nd level greivance process is 7-8 months behind. They still have not photocopied any of our mail that we requested like the memo states that laytoya hughes put out on 9/26/25. Their excuse is they do not have the equipment. Why hasnt anyone spoke to us instead if making decision you have no idea about. YOU all are a joke, dont care and lie about everything. This is a waste of our time, and you know it. (11/24/2025)

3638. This scanning is separating us even more from family and loved ones. Our mail is over a month behind and the holidays are coming up. Last Christmas I never got some of my mail. Right now I am missing a book that was delivered here July 18. Our families cannot mail us items. My mother passed away four years ago. I have the last letter she sent me. I can take it and read it, hold it and not worry about it disappearing after six months. It means so much to have this to me. I understand that you think it is needed because of drugs coming into the faucility. My question is why are the staff not being tested for drugs? Every day someone is on the job high or hung over. I don't understand why all of us are being punished for the actions of some. Take actions against those doing it, not everyone. Thank you. (11/24/2025)

3639. Were denied copies of mail although yhe memo says we can get them. There are people who do not know how to use technology. Our mail is not scanned in full content (pages missing or th page is cut off.) We get mail months after post marked. People have received other peoples mail on their tablet. Its not helping communciation any better. Plus people are still walking around here high. Yheres saboxin anf prescribed stuff that has always been an issur. Howw many correctional officers have been arrestrd and charged with drugs this year. More drugs and contraband come in by officers than mail (11/24/2025)

3640. Why does our family have to spend more money just to send us photos?
Photos do not contain anything contributing to the problem of the K-2. When they are developed photos instead of scanned photos there shouldn't be a problem.
(11/24/2025)

3641. You have stop the mail from coming in to Pinckville and yet inmates are still over dosing and smoking every day and night. This mail stopage is unfair to those of us that dont smoke

these drugs, it is all so inefficient and a waist of tax payers money. Why do you continual to punish all fo us for the actions of the few. You can make a big dent in this problem buy selling gummys or eatables of (11/24/2025)

After fifteen years at Stateville Correctional Center, I was transferred to Danville CC in September of 2024. Before incarceration, I was employed by a non-profit for thirty years and also served a stint as a US Naval Officer in the mid- 70's.

Of course, I am opposed to IDOC's amendments to Part 525 of Title 20 ·of the Illinois Administrative Code allowing inmates to only view digitized copies of our mail or having to request hard copies instead of getting the originals.

- What about non-profits who enclose self-addressed envelopes and donation slips?
- What about a keepsake card or photo from an ailing loved one?
- What about state and federal tax documents?
- What about bank and brokerage statements and tax forms which need to be filed or retained?
- What about free weekly planning calendars and religious devotionals our families send in at no cost?
- What about free books to prisoners, especially to those who have limited resources?
- What about letters of recommendations which need original signatures?
- What about clemency petitions filed by friends instead of a licensed attorney?

I currently have seven "Mail Print Requests" dating back to October 11, 2025, but have yet to receive any of them. Our prison mail room must be overwhelmed. Is IDOC going to hire additional staff to handle the unintended consequences of this proposed policy? There also may be constitutional issues regarding the state's handling of mail sent through the United States Postal Service.

If the intent was to interdict drugs coming into a secure facility, it has failed. Some are still "getting high" even after introducing a policy over a month ago which ignored due process. How about putting a dog in each mail room to sniff out the culprits rather than restricting mail for the entire prison population?

There is frustration and indignation here at Danville CC toward those who initiated this inane and feckless policy. The unintended consequences are huge and costly. Please do the right thing and rescind this amendment. (11/17/2025)

This is in response to all our mail being scanned to our tablets without our being able to actually handle it. On the surface, I understand your reason for this new rule (possible contamination of paper).
However, in the new future, I will need all of my Edovo certificates/transcripts (80+) sent to me so I may sort them and have a copy made of each to send to the Ill. Prisoner Review Board. On my next parole hearing I will have 50 years served and I hope to earn my parole.
I hope you will let me have my Adobe certificates sent directly to me.
Thank you for your consideration. (11/07/2025)

Good idea – wrong approach. Border and Airport dogs sniff thru dense packing with amazing results and they do it for "Milk Bones." The IDOC paid a $1 million in equipment and software and forced every mailroom employee with extra work. Dogs can work faster, better and for far less.

The IDOC will never admit, cellphones, dirty magazines, whiskey and drugs are being delivered by guards. Other states scan mail yet the O/D drug problem remains. You create a seller's market for "k-2" drugs at a higher delivery price.

When the O/D's continue – how will the IDOC explain this… (11/10/2025)

November 16, 2025

I am writing in regards of the mail process in Menard and the entire Department of Corrections, if it applies to the latto.

Unfortunately, I've been in and out of I.D.O.C. for thirty-five years and mail/pictures are extremely sentimental and valuable to those of us who are in custody To go back and read and physically touch your letters and pictures pring one such peace, solace and something to live for. Lately right when one is full of stress and feel hopeless, we can re-read our letters, touch the paper our children, wife or others that's dear to us touched. Having the physical picture there with us is as close as we can get to our loved ones at the time.

After chow, the last thing to look for is mail. Regardless of how your day went, it's a unexplainatory feeling of getting that physical mail, as if we do matter to someone. Mail is the last hope of the day, and we all look forward to that physical mail.

Mail being viewed electronically is not a good thing at all its for me personally, I've been waiting almost two weeks for a tablet. Prior to this waiting, I had a "new" tablet for two (2) days then that "new" tablet had the exact same problem. Not having a tablet, there is no access to your mail. Before the last tablet, I was waiting over a month to get a tablet and I was getting mail but didn't know.

Lastly, getting mail sent but not able to physically get it is/can be a safety hazard. We're all subjected to sin, or doing something against the law, rather minor or major. We have mail and pictures sent here, hypothetically speaking, an officer/mailroom staff don't like you however, have access to your love ones home, and know how they look, they can do anything to them to get back at you. This is not a far-fetched way of thinking because we never know what one is thinking.

The way that the mail is being processed now, we have absolutely no control over our most valuable possessions, others do. Will they take them home afterwards? Will they get mixed up with other individuals things? Will they discard them? We just don't know, and too many questions. If it go back to how it supposed to be, everything will be normal, no questions ask.

To Glen Austin
Subject: Ridiculous "Proposed changed on Dept. Rule on Mail and Publications" that is already implemented!

Firstly, I just want to start by saying that I am not a United States Citizen, but a foreign

National of the Kingdom of Norway.

Secondly, I want to state that it is beyond ridiculous to implement some rule of law, way before it has been approved. But guess that is the Illinois Way? I'm referring to the 20111. Adm. Code 525 Subpart Board C, regarding mail and publications, Vol. 49, Issue 41.

As you informed on memoes that "magically" disappeared from the tablets, it stated clearly that apon request, copies will be given to inmates. Why is this not happening to me, or to many other inmates that look like me, I really hope that has nothing to do with it, but last word my bud from bottom-deck called it, was racist. I feel it is more harassment toward me as a none U.S. citizen than anything, but I'm not saying any of this is the reason why my mail is not copied and given to me.

How are you gonnna deal with the mail I get from the Royal Norwegian Consulate General in New York? Because the majority of mail I get IS from my consulate. It should be dealt with the same way as Legal Mail.

I do, however, appreciate what is done to prevent drugs, etc. from getting into the penal system.

Please have something done with regarding to the mail system and our mail being copied and given to us here in our cells, not just for a 6 month period on the tablets, but in our hands at will.

Sincerely,

To Whom This May Concern,

Regarding the proposed changes to the mail policy. I am opposed to the idea of not being able to receive my original mail. I believe that receiving originals in terms of mail has a psychological benefit that helps individuals get through their terms of imprisonment and in turn helps maintain the peace in prison facilities. I think that IDOC is more than capable of keeping contraband out without resorting to the proposed measures. However, if the measures will be passed there are some changes I'd like to suggest. 20.525.140(i) sets the procedure for mail that will be potentially prohibited from being received by individuals. From what I gather it applies to the proposed prohibitions including but not limited to mail being returned to sender. However, my current facility and, from what I'm told, others say that this rule does not apply to the situation of mail being returned to sender. Some clarification in the language seems to be needed in respect to this kind of situation as it does cause issue when notification of return and/or reason for return are not given, as has been my experience. Also, I do not see anything specifically regarding photographs coming from third party printing companies and wonder if there would be considered publications from a publisher. Next, it is my hope that facilities will give individuals the option to ship the original mail but I would suggest the possibility of adding language to this effect. Finally, I think 20.525.230(c) 1 and 2 regarding supportive statements for publications under review, as well as 20.525.230(g) regarding the characteristic content of a previously denied publication changing enough to warrant being reviewed again. Should continue to be overtly stated in the proposed changes and not removed.

To: Glen Austin

Lawrence CC

This letter is in regards to this new mail system.

My concern is when mail is coming from the Clerk of the Court because the package will be labeled as "legal mail" and the mail room is opening up the mail, which includes trial

transcription motions filed and other court documents that need to be in the offenders possession. Offenders are already complaining about this.
See me, I am a pro se litigant and therefore I don't have an attorney, when my mail comes from the clerk of the court with legal documents and the mail room opens it, when it is clearly marked as "privileged" or "legal mail". This violates my right to Attorney client priviledge because I am my Attorney and client. Also I have to present documents for the law library to show court deadlines. Also those court documents are exhibits and are from an official government agency. This creates and undue delay in my access to the courts because it takes time from my deadline for me to have to request for print documents that are already supposed to send.
And why is it that we can send mail out to the clerk of the court "sealed" when marked as "priviledged" or "legal mail" but when we receive mail from the clerk of the court labeled the same the mail room still opened it.
Will you please talk to someone about this because the mail room already made me miss a deadline because of this. I wrote a grievance and its taking too long to process

Dixon Corrections
November 16, 2025
Glen Austin
Illinois Dept. of Corrections
1301 Concordia Court
Springfield, IL 62794-9271
Dear Mr. Austin
My son's mother made sure she mailed the pictures and other documents that is clearly dated Sept. 29, 2025, which made the cut off date to receive the mail, but the mailroom refused to give me the mail from Tasha Jones, code 5.p.d.f.
Also, I don't believe my bank statement is supposed to be scanned and placed on my tablet. If I can get renewals for magazines, I should be able to get my bank statement that is mailed out monthly.
Thank you for your attention to this concern.

11/10/25
Mr. Austin,
This system already isn't working, if you write to the mailroom to get a copy of the mail – it comes cut in half, they only copy half of it! The page is cut in half! Also it isn't working the way we were told on the tablet they are listing all mail and unknown! I have something from Social Security Administration and its listed as unknown. That's going on with all mail! If you take a close look at Centralia you would have to be illerate to think these drugs are coming through the mail or Visitor. These officers are operating an administration drug ring and getting "SUPER RICH"! They don't do anything to them when they get caught – they don't punish their customers. They take them to health care and bring them right back and they just keep doing it! It's not K2 – it's bug spray on paper and I'm breathing this stuff in – I'm being subjected to "dangerous – deathly bodily harm! As you catch them – keep them away from us – separate us! This should be "serious punishment but nothing is being done to them! WHY?

Dear Glen Austin,
I'm writing about a "Proposed Amendment" section "525.146 – Retention and Disposal

of Incoming Mail Subject to Electronic Mail Processing or Mail Copy Processing". And also "525.145 – Security Measures for Incoming Mail".

Us "people/individuals in custody" are being stripped from our Constitutional Rights, by Officers that are "daily" being caught in lies, stating that they are being affected by a drug that they (the officers) and other staffs are walking into the facilities with. Officers are not walking through the metal detectors, and the ones that does walk through, have pocket knives on their person, and are permitted to keep walking. (Inside information from a teacher) Maintenance Workers have been caught in "scandals" of bringing up to 5,000 pages into Western facility, but they want to blame it on the mail system. Officers was seen on camera sorting mail with rubber gloves, then blatantly lie, and say that the mail got into their blood stream from touching it. But when their own superiors confronted them about they are on camera with rubber gloves on, they face turned "beet red" with embarrassment!! Letters from family members are inpersonal, and theroputic. We can get a letter from a close relative, and a little while later, that relative dies. That same letter, the envelope, the paper, the handwriting becomes "invaluable"!! All inmates don't endulge in drugs, so we shouldn't be stripped of our right to communicate with our families. They have already taken away the right for our family to come visit us when they want to. Now family has to sign up to come see us, and when they get to the facility, they're treated like scum by Officer Zimmerman (Female Sgt.) who've been kicked out of every unit she has worked in because of her conduct. Please reverse the decision on the mail.

11-17-25
Dear Glen Austin,

Hi. My in custody name is E.W. I've been in the system for 37 years. I came in at the age of 18 and in January I'll be 57. Ya never stop drugs from coming in, nor the casual violence that goes along with it. Here's a few suggest that might help slow it down.

Step 1. Help set up structure in the mobs. Prison mobs can control the street mobs, if you give them representative power with your administration. Members will have no choice but to change their behavior. "He can't run from his mob."

Step 2. Sell edibles that contains organic herbs. You can control their addiction that way. It's legal now in this state.

Step 3. Offer incentives through the mobs to encourage better behavior. Internal Affairs could be used to do this.

Step 4. Admit, accept and be willing to periodically shakedown staff using the state troopers. This will discourage side hustles.

November 13, 2025
Illinois Department of Corrections
Attention: Glen Austin
1301 Concordia Ct.
P.O. Box 19277
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9277
Re: Proposed Changes to Department Rule on Mail and Publications.
Dear Mr. Glen Austin,

I have an immediate concern and problem with the proposed rule on mail and publications. I can best explain it to you by giving you the examples I am faced with at this time:

1. After receiving an affidavit from my brother that I need for a petition I have to file

in the circuit court of Sangamon County, the affidavit appeared on my tablet. Following the instructions in the Director's memo (Which has been taken down), I wrote to the mailroom on an offender's request form "MAIL PRINT REQUEST." I gave the number XXXXX-102125-1 to identify the mail item to be printed. That was three weeks ago, and I still have not received the affidavit.

2. The Diector's memo (which has been taken down), stated that any mail digitized on our tablet would be available at no cost to inmates, no matter how voluminous the document, and we couldrequest a copy following the procedur used in the above example. But, when I asked for a copy of some tax forms that my sister mailed to me at a cost of three dollars, the mailroom told me that I needed to get the IRS forms directly from the IRS or from the library and they refused to print my mail.

3. Lastly, I received some documents from and investment firm which had account information on it. The mail room scanned the document when they sjould have sent them directly to me because they were sent by the firm or institution.

I think this could be a good program, but I don't see it being implemented properly. I am very frustrated about the results thus far. Moreover, I've been informed that the mail room here at Western Illinois Correctional Center doesn't even have the necessary equipment on hand to print out inmate's mail. Apparently, IDOC rushed into this with only half a plan and the inmates are suffering because of it.

Thank you for considering these examples. I look forward to seeing some action on this soon.

November 8, 2025
Mr. Austin,

I am writing in reference to the Director's memo posted on our tablets regarding proposed mail changes. I have only one question, which might need clarification at some point.

Under "Section 525.146 Retention and Disposal of Incoming Mail Subject to Electronic Mail Processing or Mail Copy Processing." The two paragraphs speak of how long original documents will be retained. Okay, that deals with the retention part, but there is NO mention of how these documents will be "disposed" of, the "Disposal of Incoming Mail" part. There is no mention if we are able to have these originals returned to the sender (e.g. letter mail, photographs, other documents) that we may wish whoever sent them to use to hold on to them (especially photographs of loved ones we've never seen, or important events such as weddings, graduations, newborns). So we can at least have them when we return home in the future.

I've heard others asking the same questions, and no one, including staff, can provide an answers. In my 22 ½ + years in IDOC, I've had only two photos refused (one at a Christmas party where beer glasses were raised, and one of my great niece, about 1 ½ at the time, holding up two fingers showing the "peace' sign as she was held by her grandmother, my sister. I'm sure some need to end up in the garbage, at least in my opinion. I believe that after appropriate review of the documents in question, if cleared, they can then be returned to the sender, even at our expense, which I personally am willing to do. So far I have not received anything that I would want to be returned, but could in the future.

Please provide those to the Director, or maybe in your office, for review and possible update. Your assistance in the matter will be gratefully appreciated.

Nov. 20th, 2025

To Glen Austin or whom it may concern

I would first like to say hello And that the following is about the concerns and thoughts about the mail and publications issue.

I first want to say I understand the reason why the issue of putting mail on the tablets But, it should only stick to personal mail such as letters only, which is the primary problem. Mail such as sentimental value like greeting cards, post cards should still be allowed for that reason alone. Pictures and magazine should come throw automatically. I take courses threw the mail from American School in Lansing, Illinois and it's paper based. I paid a lot of money to get my education from there and had to get promission from the facility her at Pontiac C.C. to do my high school courses and it's costed me almost $4,000 dollars. I just got sent a letter from there and I wouldn't have known on less I had looked at my tablet. I was told any legit mail coming from any place directly from there I would get it in my hands. Such as publication, legal mail and other legit institutions. So fore I got a letter from school a well known institution and got put on my tablet, what if it had been my home work, they have a second chance honor system where they send back you checked homework and if you scored below standards they well tell you to make the corrections on questions you got wrong to get a better score. If that would go on the tablet how would I be able to fix what they tell me if I have to send the paper work back. I need my school ork to come to me. Also family pictures we need to for sure get that too, especially if they are no longer alive.

Lastly what happens to our mail, is it saved some where or sent back because that's still our personal property and our mail is still part of the U.S. Postal Service which is still part of a federal judicinal facter that every one is subject to in the U.S. Would you please fix some of these issue, if any the ones that come from at least from legitiment places like schools, they cost a lot of money to not be able to get what we need from the education we pay for. And lastly the sentimental value of some mail more importantly family photos and of friends.

Thank you for your time and if possible I would like o receive some feedback from you to, be well.

Mr. Glen Austin,

I am writing this letter to voice my concerns over the new implementation of paperless mail. I feel like this is unfair to both the individuals in custody and out families. It already takes a month after our mail was postmarked for us to receive our mail with the old system. Now its taking the same month to get a digital scan of new mail, and most of the scans are partially cut off, so we can't even view the full piece of mail. So now we're going to have to request copies. How much longer is it going to take to get a copy? Another month? So that will mean we can't even respond back to a letter for 2 months? That's absurd. It is also a waste of our families time, money, and other resources it takes to send the mail, because they destroy the mail. I feel like it is also overwhelming the mailroom by overtasking them by making them not only have to open and screen mail, but also now scan, organize and store it.

This is causing us a lack of connection to our family, friends and loved ones that could be avoided. I aske for more thought and better attention to the details of this decision.

Dated: 11/7/2025

To: Glen Austin, 11-5-25

I am writing to address the issues with the "mail scam" procedures.

First I want to start by stating that these procedures have been implemented by other states, (TX, KY, CA…), and it has been proven that it has had no effect on drugs and or contraband entering into facilities. Inmates are already devising alternate methods to continue these illicit actions.

For myself I have already been effected by these measures. Before this program, I received one to three hand written letters, weekly. Since inception, I have not received a single hand written letter. I have eleven pen-pals and numerous friends and family that write on a constant basis. Requests sent to mailroom, asking about the delay time between receiving and being scanned to tablet, have gone unanswered.

Complete transparency of this program would settle any and all issues and unanswered questions. Thank you for your time.

Attention: Glen Austin

I've been having problem with the electronic mail processing, mail copy processing and the incoming mail processing here at Danville CC. I have a bank account with CEFCU not a bank. Better. That Danville CC recognize and yet still the mail room put my account # number and all of my personal information on the tablet for any and everyone to see. Next I had FREE PRINT picture sent to me from my loved ones and they put the envelop on the tablet but not the pictures claiming that the envelop arrived empty. Then I send a request for copies of my mail on 10-9-2025 and still haven't receive them. I recently had a death in the family and my loved ones wanted to send me the obituary but I need something that's tangible not something on a screen.

To Mr. Glen Austin

RE: Proposed changes to Department Rule on Mail Publications

Good day to you Mr. Austin. I am currently incarcerated at Lawrence Correctional Center. I have a few comments regarding the proposed amendments.

1. Section 525.146(a)-My question is what happens to mail when individuals are transferred. Does the physical mail that's "held for 6 months" get transferred along

with the individual from his old facility to his new facility? Will digitized mail on individuals tablets transfer on tablets at new facility?

Similar to mail retention, there are numerous individuals in general population without a tablet or are elderly/mental and do not know how to access their mail, there is no one, no counselor checking in on them, this their mail stacks up without them being aware and family being left in the dark. How has the department allocated for that?

2. Subpart C Publications-525-210€-Are we allowed to receive publications from the family/friends (residential addresses) and/or only publishers/commercial sources? There has been conflicting answers.

   € also contains unrealistic expectations. It states "used publications that contains notes, writings, pictures or are otherwise altered from their original state are prohibited". However, aren't most used books filled with underlines, highlights, dog-eared, and marked throughout with margin notes? Furthermore, how are we-individuals in custody-to know what is inside of a used book before we order it ourselves or have our loved ones order it? Unless physically walking into the bookstore, these out in society do not even know what's inside of their used books until it arrives at their doorsteps. This problem will be a hit or miss, primarily a miss causing us in custody and our families to continuously waste money on publications that could under this provision always be grounds for rejection. Lastly wear and tear is inevitable with every book, especially older books which may be flimsy. Would a used book be rejected due to wear and tear regardless of its source?

   It appears that when it comes to content, publication is assessed by Publication Review Officers, Mailroom Staff, EFR & Warden of Programs. When it comes to form, condition, and sender does mailroom staff has exclusive authority on acceptance and rejection?

3. Section 525.230(b)(1)-implies publication can only be received if from publisher(commercial source) and not family/friends(residential). Is this the case?

   Lastly, in regards to digital mail how/what provisions have been made to ensure timeliness of requested printed documents. For example I have requested 1 personal picture and my transcripts-all of which have been scanned to the tablet-but its well over a month since I've requested a physical copy of each and have yet received them. Transcripts which will soon be needed for court. Similarly, the law literally requires picat of a deadline to be added to the deadline list to attend the law library. Court documents coming from the clerk of the courts are not privilege mail and like regular mail gets sent to our tablets. To show the law library that you have a deadline you have to write a request to the mailroom and have them print it at. However they take forever, this deadline gets eaten up and takes longer to get added to the law library's deadline.

Those are all my concerns in regards to proposed amendments.

11-20-25

Dear Mr. Austin, November 10th, 2025

My name is REDACTED and I am writing you in regards to the electronic scanning of out mail. I have major concerns and I've already seen many problems with the system that has been put in place. I will share a few of my concerns.

I have had mail scanned to my tablet that is very hard to read due to the poor quality. It takes almost a month to get our mail scanned to us. Mail is often scanned sideways and the bottom of the letter gets cut off. Then, when we request to have our mail printed, we get the response from our mailroom staff that I have enclosed with the letter. If they are still "currently in the process of working with the DHS print shop", why did they even start the process? They should have had all the kinks worked out before stopping our mail.

My 92 year old Grandmother often writes me sweet letters. I cherish these letters and will keep them forever. Well, at least I would have kept them forever until they started scanning of mail. Now, her sweet letter will be destroyed after 6 months and we have no option to have them mailed home. This goes the same with our pictures. Our family pays to send us pictures and then they are destroyed after 6 months and also removed from our tablets. If we want them put back on our tablet, our family has to pay for them to be sent every 6 months.

I totally understand the efforts to stop contraband from coming into the institutions. I have been incarcerated for 20 years and have never had a single infraction. The drugs inside the prison walls affect me daily and I have never done a drug in my life. If I thought that stopping the mail would stop the drugs, I would be all for it but I would bet my life against it.

There may be 10% of the drugs coming thought the mail but the majority of contraband is coming through the staff. The visitors always get blamed but we go through a "butt naked" strip search and then a body scanner after each visit making it impossible. Stopping the mail will only increase the profits of these dirty staff making their contraband more valuable. What is the solution? Tell IDOC staff to do their jobs and hold their own accountable instead of constantly covering up for them and blaming our loved ones. Please do not change the law and stop our in person mail.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Attachment from:
We have received your request to have your mail printed and sent to you. They are currently still in process of working with the DHS print shop that will be handling all print requests. Once they have everything finalized then your requests will be processed. Please do not send in multiple request slips for the same control number. I am keeping each request slip as you send them in. If you need something urgent for court, etc. please send me a request slip stating what the purpose of the copy is for and I will get that printed an sent to you.
I will not be printing all mail, pictures or cards here at the facility. Those requests will be handled through the DHS print shop.
Thank you for your patience and understanding!

November 10, 2025
Dear Glen Austin,

I am writing to provide some feed back about the mail process. Here at Danville Correctional Center they are scanning mail that is coming form the IRS, US Department of Education and Legal Organizations. I thought they were only suppose to scan mail coming in from family and any other mail that is not from a reputable place of business. Also, I'm on a deadline to file a clemency petition and people are sending me "support letters", and when I request to get these items printed out and sent to me I get no response from the mailroom and its been at least 2 weeks since I requested these items and still haven't received them. So I think they should just make a copy of all the mail and send the individuals in custody the copies so they can have something tangible instead of looking at it on the tablet.

Dear Mr. Glen

I did send a note by use of Edovo Bot it seems things weren't thought through before mail process proceeded. As I've said in a mess. It's hard for me to read on tablet through the light. My roommate came in and thought I was high. My eyes were all red from the straining and FYI the mail bullitian was already taken off the tablet that explains the procedures. I've been asking for copies of my mail since Sept. 24th over and over again. Finally they respond that HDS print shop is not up and running yet!? As of now theres over 200 pages to be printed out of my unread mail. Some are suduko puzzles, letters, cards, TV guide, TIME and Dell Publications which I thought we were to get mail from those said above. My family had sent me books, suduko books, cards and letters out in Sept. dated before dated memo Sept 26 and yet never opened and books dated the 29th of Sept. Never opened the package, but felt that they could be books sent them back to my family members. Those packages consisted of suduko books, birthday cards, pictures of my new driveway and landscaping all sent back home.
All that should have been aloud to come in. Post cost total $67 family was very upset. Because of the Wardens note to me stated "weve since fixed our mistakes" Ah so Centrailia was in the wrong, we should be reemburst. $67 on my Trust fund or mailed to my family. The post was total from 5 people. My POA thought that corruption was in IDOC but now he knows for sure with tinted glasses would make it easier to read on the tablet. NOW when they scan the mail its all over the place. Why can't it all be in order by date?? And UNKNOWN? Theres a name on every envelope but as unknown-where do I find the one I'm looking for. They even kept and scanned a letter from the Governor. I started a grievance and requests not so nice but finally I did get the original. I think these people are to fanatical with their job. People are still getting high even though the mail is changed. Yet no one listens to me. I know your limited with what you can do. My old GTL tablet is stin in property cause I had a grievance on it, but it had a bigger screen for reading on and yes I try to zoom in and then it's all fuzzy to read, so that don't work well. Again on the publications my TV Guide, Time and Dell sent renewal and if address changes and by the time there scanned, theres only 1 wk left and them to have it printed it's expired ☹ Some things needs to change with that. I get over whelmed with all this.

1. Can the mail be scanned in order.
2. Don't put unknown when theres a name on the envelope
3. Pls scan the entire page. Cause some have ½ of bottom line & or the signature is cut off exept for top of letters. So I have to guess who all signed.
4. And and all publication we should receive per memo from Latoya
5. Pls check on the print shop to whats the hold up.

Question-Mail from the courts, Springfield, White House and Publication, Do we get ORIGINAL COPIES?
If people do drugs then have us all sign a paper that if death is a result that IDOC can not be held responcable.

They smoke flowers from the flower beds too. Crazy but yes.

Thank You,

This is a day later cause I couldnt seal the envelope. November 13, 2025

Dear Glen Austin,

This rule change is horrible. First problem is after 6 months they delete the mail and more importantly the photos off the tablet. For prisoners like me who have a life sentence, photos means the world to us. Also its arbitruary. Specifically, the rule allows books, magazines, newspapers, so long as it comes from the publisher or a legitimate company. But bans photo even of they came from a legitimate company, for example, FREE PRINT or PELIPOST. These sompnaies send photos to prisoners that the friend/family sends to there company, so those SHOULD BE ALLOWED. This is my main, major complaint.
Please reconsider it. Thanks for your time.11.18.25

11/17/25
Dear: Glen Austin
Hello there. How are you doing on this wonderful day? My name is REDACTED and I am serving time in Pinckneyville C.C. for a murder I did not do! But that is another story. I am writing to your office today because I have some comments about the mail Rule Changes. Pinckneyville has been scanning mail for almost 2 months now and by doing this it has not change anything. It's only hurting the people who do not get mail in from friends -n– family. The contraband is still coming in stronger than ever and I can say the mail is not problem here, it's the people who work inside the prison. Putting the restriction on our mail is not working just making people more miserable because they can't keep letters from family who pass on or look at photos of family -n- friends when they are down and out. The People who work here knows who the smoker's -n- dealer's are but do nothing about it. You come live in this prison and you'll see what we see! Because of this mail scanning bs I can't order celebrity photo's anymore because they keep scanning them. I don't have a tablet because it's broke but this place keep's scanning my mail and put it on a tablet that I don't have. And if "that's a very big IF" they print out the photo's they are Black -n- White That's not the way they came in. I tried to have the mail that came in sent home and this place wont let me. This place held onto my mail until the day of the mail scanning which is b.s. the two letter's came in on Sept 25 -n- Sept 26, 2025 see the post mark. I ask that you look really hard at this mail scanning change. Put yourself in our shoe's and see how you would feel if you were doing time. And I ask that you allow us to have our regular photos come in not printed out. Thank you for Reading this letter.
Happy Thanksgiving to you.

Mr. Austin,

Hello, my name is REDACTED I'm an individual in custody here at Menard Corr. I find myself writing to you to inform you that on 16-Nov-25. Postal mail app to see if U have received any mail and there was a half of a page letter only in there. The date or whatever that was under my institutional number in red ink was 11-10-2025. OK If it was just only one page, why didn't I receive the whole letter?? I am asking you how or who do I have to get in contact with to get the rest of my letter.