
DIGEST

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HB 145 Original

2021 Regular Session

Bryant

Abstract: Allows for parole eligibility of persons convicted of specific crimes under certain circumstances.

Present law provides that notwithstanding present law provisions, unless eligible for parole at an earlier date, a person committed to the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections for a term or terms of imprisonment with or without benefit of parole for 30 years or more shall be eligible for parole consideration upon serving at least 20 years of the term or terms of imprisonment in actual custody and upon reaching the age of 45.

Present law further provides that parole eligibility is not applicable to any person who has been convicted of armed robbery under R.S. 14:64, a crime of violence as defined in R.S. 14:2(B), or a sex offense as defined in R.S. 15:541.

Proposed law amends present law to provide that persons who have been convicted of armed robbery under R.S. 14:64 shall be eligible for parole consideration upon serving at least 20 years of the term or terms of imprisonment in actual custody and upon reaching the age of 45.

Proposed law specifies that a person who has been convicted of a crime of violence or a sex offense shall not be eligible for parole when the offense was committed on or after July 1, 2008.

Present law provides that except as provided by present law, no prisoner serving a life sentence shall be eligible for parole consideration until his life sentence has been commuted to a fixed term of years and no prisoner sentenced as a serial sexual offender shall be eligible for parole. No prisoner may be paroled while there is pending against him any indictment or information for any crime suspected of having been committed by him while a prisoner.

Present law further provides that a person convicted of a crime of violence and not otherwise ineligible for parole shall serve at least 65% of the sentence imposed, before being eligible for parole.

Present law also provides that the victim or victim's family shall be notified whenever the offender is to be released provided that the victim or victim's family has completed a Louisiana victim notice and registration form as provided in R.S. 46:1841 et seq., or has otherwise provided contact information and has indicated to the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, Crime Victims Services Bureau, that they desire such notification.

Proposed law retains present law but removes the prohibition that no person shall be eligible for parole consideration who has been convicted of armed robbery and denied under the provisions of present law (R.S. 14:64).

Proposed law further amends present law to provide that notwithstanding any provision of present law, a person convicted of a crime of violence when the offense was committed after July 1, 2008, and not otherwise ineligible for parole shall serve at least 65% of the sentence imposed before being eligible for release on good time parole supervision.

Specifies that proposed law shall have retroactive and prospective application.

(Amends R.S. 15:574.4(A)(2) and (B)(1))