HLS 17RS-719 ORIGINAL

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 615

1

BY REPRESENTATIVE TERRY LANDRY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

CORRECTIONS/PRISONERS: Provides relative to an inmate's eligibility to participate in certain programs and relative to completion of programs prior to release on parole

AN ACT

2	To amend and reenact R.S. 15:574.4.1(D) and 1199.7(C), relative to inmate programs; to
3	provide relative to eligibility for participation in the inmate rehabilitation and
4	workforce development program; to authorize inmates convicted of a crime of
5	violence and inmates sentenced as a habitual offender to be considered for
6	participation in the program; to provide relative to completion of programs prior to
7	release on parole; and to provide for related matters.
8	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
9	Section 1. R.S. 15:574.4.1(D) and 1199.7(C) are hereby amended and reenacted to
10	read as follows:
11	§574.4.1. Parole consideration and hearings
12	* * *
13	D.(1) The Except as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, the release
14	date of the prisoner shall be fixed by the committee, but such date shall not be later
15	than six months after the parole hearing or the most recent reconsideration of the
16	prisoner's case.
17	(2) If the committee on parole determines that it is necessary for the prisoner
18	to complete one or more rehabilitative programs prior to his release to ensure public
19	safety and enhance the prisoner's opportunity for success, the release date of the

1 prisoner may be extended to no later than nine months after the parole hearing or the 2 most recent reconsideration of the prisoner's case. 3 4 §1199.7. Inmate eligibility for program; prohibitions 5 6 C. An inmate convicted of any of the following offenses a sex offense as 7 defined in R.S. 15:541 shall not be eligible for participation in the program. 8 (1) A sex offense as defined in R.S. 15:541. 9 (2) A crime of violence as defined in R.S. 14:2(B). 10 (3) A habitual offender in accordance with R.S. 15:529.1.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 615 Original

2017 Regular Session

Terry Landry

Abstract: Provides relative to an inmate's eligibility to participate in certain programs and relative to completion of programs prior to release on parole.

<u>Present law</u> (R.S. 15:574.4.1) provides that when the committee on parole grants parole, the release date shall be fixed by the committee on parole and cannot exceed a period of six months after the parole hearing or the most recent consideration of the inmate's case.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> but allows the committee on parole to extend this period to a maximum of nine months after the parole hearing or the most recent consideration of the inmate's case, if the committee on parole determines that to ensure public safety and the offender's opportunity for success, completion of one or more specific rehabilitative programs is required prior to the inmate's release.

<u>Present law</u> (R.S. 15:1199.1 et seq.) provides for the establishment and administration of an inmate rehabilitation and workforce development program within the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections.

<u>Present law</u> (R.S. 15:1199.7) provides that an inmate may be eligible for participation in the program if the inmate meets <u>present law</u> eligibility requirements for participation in a work release program. <u>Present law</u> prohibits the following inmates from being eligible for consideration for participation in the inmate rehabilitation and workforce development program:

- (1) An inmate convicted of a crime of violence as defined by present law (R.S. 14:2).
- (2) An inmate convicted of a sex offense as defined by <u>present law</u> (R.S. 15:541).
- (3) An inmate convicted and sentenced as a habitual offender pursuant to <u>present law</u> (R.S. 15:529.1).

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

<u>Proposed law</u> removes this <u>present law</u> prohibition for inmates convicted of a crime of violence and inmates convicted and sentenced as a habitual offender. <u>Proposed law</u> retains the <u>present law</u> prohibition for inmates convicted of a sex offense.

(Amends R.S. 15:574.4.1(D) and 1199.7(C))