

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 168

BY REPRESENTATIVES FREIBERG, CHENEVERT, AND KNOX

CORRECTIONS: Creates a transitional reentry program for female parolees

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 15:574.23 and to repeal R.S. 15:828.4, relative to parole; to establish the
3 transitional reentry program for female parolees; to provide for administration of the
4 program; to provide for eligibility criteria; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 15:574.23 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §574.23. Transitional reentry program for female parolees; establishment

8 A. For the purposes of this Section, "transitional reentry program" means a
9 structured reentry preparatory program administered by the Department of Public
10 Safety and Corrections for female parolees that is designed to facilitate their safe and
11 successful reintegration into the community.

12 B. A female offender shall be eligible for consideration of placement in the
13 transitional reentry program if she meets all of the following conditions:

14 (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 15:574.4, she is currently eligible
15 for parole consideration and has met all of the following criteria:

16 (a) She has served at least five years of imprisonment in actual custody.

17 (b) The instant conviction or any prior conviction is not a sex offense as
18 defined in R.S. 15:541.

19 (c) She is within six months of her projected release date based on
20 diminution of sentence pursuant to R.S. 15:571.3.

21 (d) She has not been denied parole in the previous twelve months.

1 (e) She has not committed any major disciplinary offenses in the twelve
2 months prior to her entering the program. A major disciplinary offense is an offense
3 identified as a Schedule B offense by the Department of Public Safety and
4 Corrections in the Disciplinary Rules and Procedures for Adult Offenders.

5 (2) She has been granted parole pursuant to this Part.

6 (3) She voluntarily agrees to participate in and adhere to any additional
7 screening, assessment, or eligibility requirements established by the Department of
8 Public Safety and Corrections.

9 Section 2. R.S. 15:828.4 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

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 168 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Freiberg

Abstract: Creates a transitional reentry program for female parolees.

Proposed law establishes a transitional reentry program administered by the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C) for female parolees that is designed to facilitate their safe and successful reintegration into the community.

Proposed law provides for criteria that a female offender is required to meet for consideration of placement in the program as follows:

- (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of present law (R.S. 15:574.4), is currently eligible for parole consideration and meets all of the following criteria:
 - (a) Has served at least five years of imprisonment in actual custody.
 - (b) The instant conviction or any prior conviction is not a sex offense.
 - (c) Is within six months of her projected release date based on diminution of sentence pursuant to present law (R.S. 15:571.3).
 - (d) Has not been denied parole in the previous 12 months.
 - (e) Has not committed any major disciplinary offenses in the 12 months prior to her entering the program.
- (2) Has been granted parole pursuant to present law.
- (3) Voluntarily agrees to participate in and adhere to any additional screening, assessment, or eligibility requirements established by the DPS&C.

Present law (R.S. 15:828.4) provides for the establishment of the transitional residential pilot program for female offenders, eligibility conditions, implementation, and a termination date of Aug. 1, 2024.

Proposed law repeals present law.

(Adds R.S. 15:574.23; Repeals R.S. 15:828.4)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Repeal present law that established a transitional residential pilot program for female offenders that terminated on Aug. 1, 2024.