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## DIGEST

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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.

Present law (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.

Proposed law retains present law 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.

Present law (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.

Present law (R.S. 15:1199.7) provides that an inmate may be eligible for participation in the program if the inmate meets present law eligibility requirements for participation in a work release program. Present law 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 present law (R.S. 15:541).
- (3) An inmate convicted and sentenced as a habitual offender pursuant to present law (R.S. 15:529.1).

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

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