

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1065

BY REPRESENTATIVE WILFORD CARTER

PARDON/PAROLE: Provides relative to parole eligibility, consideration, and hearings for persons convicted by a non-unanimous jury

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 15:574.2(C)(2)(introductory paragraph) and to enact R.S.  
3 15:574.2(C)(4), 574.4(L), and 574.4.1(F), relative to parole; to provide relative to  
4 parole eligibility and consideration for certain offenders; to provide relative to the  
5 duties of the committee on parole; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 15:574.2(C)(2)(introductory paragraph) is hereby amended and  
8 reenacted and R.S. 15:574.2(C)(4), 574.4(L), and 574.4.1(F) are hereby enacted to read as  
9 follows:

10 §574.2. Committee on parole, Board of Pardons; membership; qualifications;  
11 vacancies; compensation; domicile; venue; meetings; quorum; panels;  
12 powers and duties; transfer of property to committee; representation of  
13 applicants before the committee; prohibitions

14 \* \* \*

15 C.

16 \* \* \*

17 (2) Except as provided in ~~Paragraph~~ Paragraphs (3) and (4) of this  
18 Subsection, three votes of a three-member panel ~~shall be~~ are required to grant parole  
19 or, if the number of members of the panel exceeds three, a unanimous vote of those

1 present ~~shall be~~ is required to grant parole and only if all of the following conditions  
2 are met:

3 \* \* \*

4 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary in this  
5 Section, a majority of a three-member panel is required to grant parole or, if the  
6 number of members of the panel exceeds three, a majority vote of those present is  
7 required to grant parole for a person serving a sentence that was imposed pursuant  
8 to a non-unanimous jury verdict.

9 \* \* \*

10 §574.4. Parole; eligibility; juvenile offenders

11 \* \* \*

12 L. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, an offender serving  
13 a sentence that was imposed pursuant to a non-unanimous jury verdict shall  
14 immediately be eligible for parole consideration.

15 §574.4.1. Parole consideration and hearings

16 \* \* \*

17 F.(1) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the committee  
18 shall consider or reconsider the application for parole of any prisoner who is serving  
19 a sentence that was imposed pursuant to a non-unanimous jury verdict.

20 (2) If the prisoner is not granted parole, the prisoner shall be notified in  
21 writing of the reason for the denial and may file a new application to the board no  
22 earlier than one year from the date of action by the board. Any subsequent  
23 applications shall not be filed earlier than one year after the immediately preceding  
24 action taken by the board.

25 Section 2. Beginning August 1, 2026, the committee on parole shall consider or  
26 reconsider applications for parole for sentences described in R.S. 15:574.4.1(F)(1), as  
27 enacted by Section 1 of this Act.

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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)]

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HB 1065 Original

2026 Regular Session

Wilford Carter

**Abstract:** Provides relative to parole eligibility, consideration, and hearings for persons convicted by a non-unanimous jury.

Present law (R.S. 15:574.2) provides relative to the duties and procedures of the committee on parole.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that a unanimous vote of the committee is required to grant parole.

Proposed law amends present law to provide that a majority of a three-member panel of the committee is required to grant parole or, if the number of members of the panel exceeds three, a majority vote of those present is required to grant parole for a person serving a sentence that was imposed pursuant to a non-unanimous jury verdict.

Present law (R.S. 15:574.4) provides for parole eligibility.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law provides that an offender serving a sentence that was imposed pursuant to a non-unanimous jury verdict is immediately eligible for parole consideration.

Present law (R.S. 15:574.4.1) provides for parole consideration and hearings.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law requires the committee, beginning on Aug. 1, 2026, to consider or reconsider the parole application of any prisoner who is serving a sentence that was imposed pursuant to a non-unanimous jury verdict.

Proposed law requires the committee to notify the prisoner in writing of the reason for denial if the prisoner is not granted parole and permits the prisoner to file a new application to the board no earlier than one year from the date of action by the board.

Proposed law prohibits the filing of any subsequent applications any earlier than one year after the immediately preceding action taken by the board.

(Amends R.S. 15:574.2(C)(2)(intro. para.); Adds R.S. 15:574.2(C)(4), 574.4(L), and 574.4.1(F))