

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 37

BY REPRESENTATIVE MARCELLE

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

PAROLE: Provides parole eligibility for offenders who serve as mentors in the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections' inmate rehabilitation and workforce development program

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 15:574.4(J), relative to parole eligibility; to provide parole eligibility for  
3 offenders who serve as mentors in the inmate rehabilitation and workforce  
4 development program; to provide criteria for eligibility; and to provide for related  
5 matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 15:574.4(J) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §574.4. Parole; eligibility; juvenile offenders

9 \* \* \*

10 J. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any person who  
11 serves as a mentor in the inmate rehabilitation and workforce development program  
12 operated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections pursuant to R.S.  
13 15:1199.1 et seq., shall be eligible for parole consideration pursuant to the provisions  
14 of this Subsection if all of the following conditions have been met:

15 (1) The person is committed to the Department of Public Safety and  
16 Corrections for a term or terms of imprisonment with or without benefit of parole.

17 (2) The person has completed all programming deemed appropriate for the  
18 person by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

1           (3) The person has not committed any major disciplinary offenses in twelve  
2           consecutive months prior to the parole hearing date. A major disciplinary offense is  
3           an offense 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           (4) The person has completed the mandatory minimum of one hundred hours  
6           of prerelease programming in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 15:827.1 if  
7           such programming is available at the facility where the person is incarcerated.

8           (5) The person has obtained a low-risk level designation determined by a  
9           validated risk assessment instrument approved by the secretary of the Department  
10          of Public Safety and Corrections.

11          (6) The person is at least forty years of age and has served at least twenty  
12          years of the term or terms of imprisonment.

13          (7) The person has served in the capacity as a mentor for the inmate  
14          rehabilitation and workforce development program for a minimum of five years.

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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 37 Engrossed

2019 Regular Session

Marcelle

**Abstract:** Provides parole eligibility for certain offenders who serve as mentors in the inmate rehabilitation and workforce development program operated by the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections.

Present law provides parole eligibility for adult and juvenile offenders who meet certain criteria set forth in present law.

Present law provides for the inmate rehabilitation and workforce development program operated by the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections and, in addition to other eligibility requirements, prohibits persons convicted of a sex offense or crime of violence, or persons sentenced as a habitual offender, from participating in the program.

Proposed law retains present law and provides parole eligibility for offenders who serve as mentors in the inmate rehabilitation and workforce development program and who meet other criteria set forth in proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 15:574.4(J))