DIGEST

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Patricia Smith HB No. 138

Abstract: Provides for parole consideration for those inmates who have served 10 years in prison, have reached the age of 60 years, and have met certain conditions.

Proposed law provides that any person sentenced to the custody of DPS&C who has served at least 10 years of a term of imprisonment shall be eligible for parole consideration upon reaching the age of 60 if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The offender has not been convicted of a crime of violence or a sex offense, or an offense which would constitute a crime of violence or a sex offense, regardless of the date of conviction.

(2) The offender has not committed any disciplinary offenses in the 12 consecutive months prior to the parole eligibility date.

(3) The offender has completed the mandatory minimum of 100 hours of prerelease programming.

(4) The offender has completed substance abuse treatment as applicable.

(5) The offender has obtained a GED, unless the offender has previously obtained a high school diploma or is deemed by a certified educator as being incapable of obtaining a GED due to a learning disability. If the offender is deemed incapable of obtaining a GED, the offender must complete at least one of the following: a literacy program, an adult basic education program, or a job skills training program.

(6) The offender has obtained a low-risk level designation determined by a validated risk assessment instrument approved by the secretary of DPS&C.

(Adds R.S. 15:574.4(A)(4))