

SENATE BILL NO. 120

March 01, 2023, Introduced by Senators SHINK, GEISS, MCMORROW, MCDONALD RIVET, SINGH, BAYER, ANTHONY, CHANG, CAVANAGH, IRWIN, POLEHANKI, HERTEL, SANTANA and BELLINO and referred to the Committee on Civil Rights, Judiciary, and Public Safety.

A bill to amend 1953 PA 232, entitled
"Corrections code of 1953,"
by amending section 34 (MCL 791.234), as amended by 2019 PA 14.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 34. (1) Except for a prisoner granted parole under
2 section 35(10) or as provided in **this section or** section 34a, a
3 prisoner sentenced to an indeterminate sentence and confined in a
4 state correctional facility with a minimum in terms of years other
5 than a prisoner subject to disciplinary time is subject to the

1 jurisdiction of the parole board when the prisoner has served a
2 period of time equal to the minimum sentence imposed by the court
3 for the crime of which ~~he or she~~ **the prisoner** was convicted, less
4 good time and disciplinary credits, if applicable.

5 (2) Except for a prisoner granted parole under section 35(10)
6 or as provided in **this section or** section 34a, a prisoner subject
7 to disciplinary time sentenced to an indeterminate sentence and
8 confined in a state correctional facility with a minimum in terms
9 of years is subject to the jurisdiction of the parole board when
10 the prisoner has served a period of time equal to the minimum
11 sentence imposed by the court for the crime of which ~~he or she~~ **the**
12 **prisoner** was convicted.

13 (3) Except **as otherwise provided in this section or** for a
14 prisoner granted parole under section 35(10), if a prisoner other
15 than a prisoner subject to disciplinary time is sentenced for
16 consecutive terms, whether received at the same time or at any time
17 during the life of the original sentence, the parole board has
18 jurisdiction over the prisoner for purposes of parole when the
19 prisoner has served the total time of the added minimum terms, less
20 the good time and disciplinary credits allowed by statute. The
21 maximum terms of the sentences must be added to compute the new
22 maximum term under this subsection, and discharge must be issued
23 only after the total of the maximum sentences has been served less
24 good time and disciplinary credits, unless the prisoner is paroled
25 and discharged upon satisfactory completion of the parole.

26 (4) Except **as otherwise provided in this section or** for a
27 prisoner granted parole under section 35(10), if a prisoner subject
28 to disciplinary time is sentenced for consecutive terms, whether
29 received at the same time or at any time during the life of the

1 original sentence, the parole board has jurisdiction over the
2 prisoner for purposes of parole when the prisoner has served the
3 total time of the added minimum terms. The maximum terms of the
4 sentences must be added to compute the new maximum term under this
5 subsection, and discharge must be issued only after the total of
6 the maximum sentences has been served, unless the prisoner is
7 paroled and discharged upon satisfactory completion of the parole.

8 (5) If a prisoner other than a prisoner subject to
9 disciplinary time has 1 or more consecutive terms remaining to
10 serve in addition to the term ~~he or she~~ **the prisoner** is serving,
11 the parole board may terminate the sentence the prisoner is
12 presently serving at any time after the minimum term of the
13 sentence has been served.

14 (6) ~~A~~ **Except as otherwise provided in this section, a** prisoner
15 sentenced to imprisonment for life for any of the following is not
16 eligible for parole and is instead subject to the provisions of
17 section 44 or 44a:

18 (a) First degree murder in violation of section 316 of the
19 Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.316.

20 (b) A violation of section 16(5) or 18(7) of the Michigan
21 penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.16 and 750.18.

22 (c) A violation of chapter XXXIII of the Michigan penal code,
23 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.200 to 750.212a.

24 (d) A violation of section 17764(7) of the public health code,
25 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.17764.

26 (e) First degree criminal sexual conduct in violation of
27 section 520b(2)(c) of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL
28 750.520b.

29 (f) Any other violation for which parole eligibility is

1 expressly denied under state law.

2 (7) Except **as otherwise provided in this section or** for a
3 prisoner granted parole under section 35(10), a prisoner sentenced
4 to imprisonment for life, other than a prisoner described in
5 subsection (6), is subject to the jurisdiction of the parole board
6 and may be placed on parole according to the conditions prescribed
7 in subsection (8) if ~~he or she~~ **the prisoner** meets any of the
8 following criteria:

9 (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b) or (c), the prisoner
10 has served 10 calendar years of the sentence for a crime committed
11 before October 1, 1992 or 15 calendar years of the sentence for a
12 crime committed on or after October 1, 1992.

13 (b) Except as provided in subsection (12), the prisoner has
14 served 20 calendar years of a sentence for violating, or attempting
15 or conspiring to violate, section 7401(2)(a)(i) of the public health
16 code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401, and has another conviction for a
17 serious crime.

18 (c) Except as provided in subsection (12), the prisoner has
19 served 17-1/2 calendar years of the sentence for violating, or
20 attempting or conspiring to violate, section 7401(2)(a)(i) of the
21 public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401, and does not have
22 another conviction for a serious crime.

23 (8) A parole granted to a prisoner under subsection (7) is
24 subject to the following conditions:

25 (a) At the conclusion of 10 calendar years of the prisoner's
26 sentence and thereafter as determined by the parole board until the
27 prisoner is paroled, discharged, or deceased, and in accordance
28 with the procedures described in subsection (9), 1 member of the
29 parole board shall interview the prisoner. The interview schedule

1 prescribed in this subdivision applies to all prisoners to whom
2 subsection (7) applies, regardless of the date on which they were
3 sentenced.

4 (b) In addition to the interview schedule prescribed in
5 subdivision (a), the parole board shall review the prisoner's file
6 at the conclusion of 15 calendar years of the prisoner's sentence
7 and every 5 years thereafter until the prisoner is paroled,
8 discharged, or deceased. A prisoner whose file is to be reviewed
9 under this subdivision must be notified of the upcoming file review
10 at least 30 days before the file review takes place and must be
11 allowed to submit written statements or documentary evidence for
12 the parole board's consideration in conducting the file review.

13 (c) A decision to grant or deny parole to the prisoner must
14 not be made until after a public hearing held in the manner
15 prescribed for pardons and commutations in sections 44 and 45.
16 Notice of the public hearing must be given to the sentencing judge,
17 or the judge's successor in office. Parole must not be granted if
18 the sentencing judge files written objections to the granting of
19 the parole within 30 days of receipt of the notice of hearing, but
20 the sentencing judge's written objections bar the granting of
21 parole only if the sentencing judge is still in office in the court
22 before which the prisoner was convicted and sentenced. A sentencing
23 judge's successor in office may file written objections to the
24 granting of parole, but a successor judge's objections must not bar
25 the granting of parole under subsection (7). If written objections
26 are filed by either the sentencing judge or the judge's successor
27 in office, the objections must be made part of the prisoner's file.

28 (d) A parole granted under subsection (7) must be for a period
29 of not less than 4 years and subject to the usual rules pertaining

1 to paroles granted by the parole board. A parole granted under
2 subsection (7) is not valid until the transcript of the record is
3 filed with the attorney general whose certification of receipt of
4 the transcript must be returned to the office of the parole board
5 within 5 days. Except for medical records protected under section
6 2157 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL
7 600.2157, the file of a prisoner granted a parole under subsection
8 (7) is a public record.

9 (9) An interview conducted under subsection (8) (a) is subject
10 to both of the following requirements:

11 (a) The prisoner must be given written notice, not less than
12 30 days before the interview date, stating that the interview will
13 be conducted.

14 (b) The prisoner may be represented at the interview by an
15 individual of ~~his or her~~ **the prisoner's** choice. The representative
16 must not be another prisoner. A prisoner is not entitled to
17 appointed counsel at public expense. The prisoner or representative
18 may present relevant evidence in favor of holding a public hearing
19 as allowed in subsection (8) (c).

20 (10) In determining whether a prisoner convicted of violating,
21 or attempting or conspiring to violate, section 7401(2) (a) (i) of the
22 public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401, and sentenced to
23 imprisonment for life before October 1, 1998 is to be released on
24 parole, the parole board shall consider all of the following:

25 (a) Whether the violation was part of a continuing series of
26 violations of section 7401 or 7403 of the public health code, 1978
27 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, by that individual.

28 (b) Whether the violation was committed by the individual in
29 concert with 5 or more other individuals.

1 (c) Any of the following:

2 (i) Whether the individual was a principal administrator,
3 organizer, or leader of an entity that the individual knew or had
4 reason to know was organized, in whole or in part, to commit
5 violations of section 7401 or 7403 of the public health code, 1978
6 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, and whether the violation for
7 which the individual was convicted was committed to further the
8 interests of that entity.

9 (ii) Whether the individual was a principal administrator,
10 organizer, or leader of an entity that the individual knew or had
11 reason to know committed violations of section 7401 or 7403 of the
12 public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, and
13 whether the violation for which the individual was convicted was
14 committed to further the interests of that entity.

15 (iii) Whether the violation was committed in a drug-free school
16 zone.

17 (iv) Whether the violation involved the delivery of a
18 controlled substance to an individual less than 17 years of age or
19 possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance to an
20 individual less than 17 years of age.

21 (11) Except as provided in subsection (19) and section 34a, a
22 prisoner's release on parole is discretionary with the parole
23 board. The action of the parole board in granting a parole is
24 appealable by the prosecutor of the county from which the prisoner
25 was committed or the victim of the crime for which the prisoner was
26 convicted. The appeal must be to the circuit court in the county
27 from which the prisoner was committed, by leave of the court.

28 (12) If the sentencing judge, or ~~his or her~~ **the judge's**
29 successor in office, determines on the record that a prisoner

1 described in subsection (7) (b) or (c) sentenced to imprisonment for
2 life for violating, or attempting or conspiring to violate, section
3 7401(2) (a) (i) of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401,
4 has cooperated with law enforcement, the prisoner is subject to the
5 jurisdiction of the parole board and may be released on parole as
6 provided in subsection (7) (b) or (c) 2-1/2 years earlier than the
7 time otherwise indicated in subsection (7) (b) or (c). The prisoner
8 is considered to have cooperated with law enforcement if the court
9 determines on the record that the prisoner had no relevant or
10 useful information to provide. The court shall not make a
11 determination that the prisoner failed or refused to cooperate with
12 law enforcement on grounds that the defendant exercised ~~his or her~~
13 **the defendant's** constitutional right to trial by jury. If the court
14 determines at sentencing that the defendant cooperated with law
15 enforcement, the court shall include its determination in the
16 judgment of sentence.

17 (13) Except for a prisoner granted parole under section 35(10)
18 and notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), a prisoner convicted
19 of violating, or attempting or conspiring to violate, section
20 7401(2) (a) (i) or 7403(2) (a) (i) of the public health code, 1978 PA
21 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, whose offense occurred before March
22 1, 2003, and who was sentenced to a term of years, is eligible for
23 parole after serving 20 years of the sentence imposed for the
24 violation if the individual has another serious crime or 17-1/2
25 years of the sentence if the individual does not have another
26 conviction for a serious crime, or after serving the minimum
27 sentence imposed for that violation, whichever is less.

28 (14) Except for a prisoner granted parole under section 35(10)
29 and notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), a prisoner who was

1 convicted of violating, or attempting or conspiring to violate,
2 section 7401(2)(a)(ii) or 7403(2)(a)(ii) of the public health code,
3 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, whose offense occurred
4 before March 1, 2003, and who was sentenced according to those
5 sections as they existed before March 1, 2003, is eligible for
6 parole after serving the minimum of each sentence imposed for that
7 violation or 10 years of each sentence imposed for that violation,
8 whichever is less.

9 (15) Except for a prisoner granted parole under section 35(10)
10 and notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), a prisoner who was
11 convicted of violating, or attempting or conspiring to violate,
12 section 7401(2)(a)(iii) or 7403(2)(a)(iii) of the public health code,
13 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, whose offense occurred
14 before March 1, 2003, and who was sentenced according to those
15 sections as they existed before March 1, 2003, is eligible for
16 parole after serving the minimum of each sentence imposed for that
17 violation or 5 years of each sentence imposed for that violation,
18 whichever is less.

19 (16) Except for a prisoner granted parole under section 35(10)
20 and notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), a prisoner who was
21 convicted of violating, or attempting or conspiring to violate,
22 section 7401(2)(a)(iv) or 7403(2)(a)(iv) of the public health code,
23 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, whose offense occurred
24 before March 1, 2003, who was sentenced according to those sections
25 of law as they existed before March 1, 2003 to consecutive terms of
26 imprisonment for 2 or more violations of section 7401(2)(a) or
27 7403(2)(a) of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and
28 333.7403, is eligible for parole after serving 1/2 of the minimum
29 sentence imposed for each violation of section 7401(2)(a)(iv) or

1 7403(2) (a) (iv) of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401
2 and 333.7403. This subsection applies only to sentences imposed for
3 violations of section 7401(2) (a) (iv) or 7403(2) (a) (iv) of the public
4 health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, and does not
5 apply if the sentence was imposed for a conviction for a new
6 offense committed while the individual was on probation or parole.

7 (17) Except for a prisoner granted parole under section 35(10)
8 and notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), a prisoner who was
9 convicted of violating, or attempting or conspiring to violate,
10 section 7401(2) (a) (ii) or (iii) or 7403(2) (a) (ii) or (iii) of the public
11 health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, who had a
12 prior conviction for a violation of section 7401(2) (a) (ii) or (iii) or
13 7403(2) (a) (ii) or (iii) of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL
14 333.7401 and 333.7403, and who was sentenced to life without parole
15 under section 7413(1) of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL
16 333.7413, according to that section as it existed before March 28,
17 2018 is eligible for parole after serving 5 years of each sentence
18 imposed for that violation.

19 (18) The parole board shall provide notice to the prosecuting
20 attorney of the county in which the prisoner was convicted before
21 granting parole to the prisoner under subsection (13), (14), (15),
22 (16), ~~or~~ (17), **or (22)** or under section 35(10). The parole board
23 shall provide the relevant medical records to the prosecuting
24 attorney of the county in which the prisoner was convicted for a
25 prisoner being considered for parole under section 35(10) at the
26 same time the parole board provides the notice required under this
27 subsection. The parole board shall also provide notice to any known
28 victim or, in the case of a homicide, the victim's immediate
29 family, that it is considering a prisoner for parole under section

1 35(10) at the same time it provides notice to the prosecuting
2 attorney under this subsection.

3 (19) The prosecuting attorney or victim or, in the case of a
4 homicide, the victim's immediate family, may object to the parole
5 board's decision to recommend parole by filing a motion in the
6 circuit court in the county in which the prisoner was convicted
7 within 30 days of receiving notice under subsection (18). Upon
8 notification under subsection (18) and request by the victim, or,
9 in the case of a homicide, the victim's immediate family, the
10 prosecuting attorney must confer with the victim, or in the case of
11 a homicide, the victim's immediate family, before making a decision
12 regarding whether or not to object to the parole board's
13 determination. A motion filed under this subsection must be heard
14 by the sentencing judge or the judge's successor in office. The
15 prosecuting attorney shall inform the parole board if a motion was
16 filed under this subsection. A prosecutor who files a motion under
17 this subsection may seek an independent medical examination of the
18 prisoner being considered for parole under section 35(10). If an
19 appeal is initiated under this subsection, a subsequent appeal
20 under subsection (11) may not be initiated upon the granting of
21 parole.

22 (20) Both of the following apply to a hearing conducted on a
23 motion filed under subsection (19):

24 (a) The prosecutor and the parole board may present evidence
25 in support of or in opposition to the determination that a prisoner
26 is medically frail, including the results of any independent
27 medical examination.

28 (b) The sentencing judge or the judge's successor shall
29 determine whether the prisoner is eligible for parole as a result

1 of being medically frail.

2 (21) The decision of the sentencing judge or the judge's
3 successor on a motion filed under subsection (19) is binding on the
4 parole board with respect to whether a prisoner must be considered
5 medically frail or not. However, the decision of the sentencing
6 judge or the judge's successor is subject to appeal by leave to the
7 court of appeals granted to the department, the prosecuting
8 attorney, or the victim or victim's immediate family in the case of
9 a homicide.

10 (22) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in this
11 act, an individual who was less than 19 years of age at the time
12 the individual committed a crime for which the individual was
13 sentenced to life imprisonment without parole eligibility or to a
14 term of years for a violation of section 16, 18, 200i, 204, 207,
15 209, 210, 211a, 316, 436, or 543f of the Michigan penal code, 1931
16 PA 328, MCL 750.16, 750.18, 750.200i, 750.204, 750.207, 750.209,
17 750.210, 750.211a, 750.316, 750.436, and 750.543f, or section 17764
18 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.17764, who has
19 served 10 years of the sentence is subject to the jurisdiction of
20 the parole board and may be released on parole by the parole board.
21 In determining whether to release an individual on parole under
22 this subsection, the parole board shall consider all of the
23 following factors:

24 (a) The individual's age and immaturity at the time of the
25 offense.

26 (b) The individual's family and home environment at the time
27 of the offense.

28 (c) The circumstances surrounding the offense, including the
29 role the individual had in the commission of the offense and the

1 **influence of peer pressure.**

2 (23) ~~(22)~~—As used in this section:

3 (a) "Medically frail" means that term as defined in section
4 35(22).

5 (b) "Serious crime" means violating or conspiring to violate
6 article 7 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7101 to
7 333.7545, that is punishable by imprisonment for more than 4 years,
8 or an offense against a person in violation of section 83, 84, 86,
9 87, 88, 89, 316, 317, 321, 349, 349a, 350, 397, 520b, 520c, 520d,
10 520g, 529, 529a, or 530 of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328,
11 MCL 750.83, 750.84, 750.86, 750.87, 750.88, 750.89, 750.316,
12 750.317, 750.321, 750.349, 750.349a, 750.350, 750.397, 750.520b,
13 750.520c, 750.520d, 750.520g, 750.529, 750.529a, and 750.530.

14 (c) "State correctional facility" means a facility that houses
15 prisoners committed to the jurisdiction of the department.

16 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days
17 after the date it is enacted into law.

18 Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect
19 unless all of the following bills of the 102nd Legislature are
20 enacted into law:

21 (a) Senate Bill No. 119.

22

23 (b) Senate Bill No. 121.

24

25 (c) Senate Bill No. 123.

26

27 (d) Senate Bill No. 122.

28