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Second Regular Session - 2024

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 462

BY JUDICIARY, RULES AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT RELATING TO CRIMINAL PROCEDURE; AMENDING SECTION 19-2513, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE A PROVISION REGARDING PAROLE FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE AND MEDI-CAL PAROLE; AMENDING SECTION 19-2715, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE A CORRECT CODE REFERENCE AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AMENDING SECTION 20-201, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE A PROVISION REGARDING THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION, TO PROVIDE FOR THE STATE BOARD OF CORRECTION, TO REMOVE A PROVISION REGARDING THE COMMISSION OF PARDONS AND PAROLE, AND TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION; AMENDING SECTION 20-1001, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE A DEFINITION AND TO DEFINE A TERM; AMENDING SECTION 20-1002, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING THE COMMISSION OF PARDONS AND PAROLE; AMENDING SECTION 20-1003, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE TERMINOLOGY AND TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION; AMENDING SECTION 20-1004, IDAHO CODE, TO RE-VISE A PROVISION REGARDING DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE COMMISSION AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AMENDING SECTION 20-1005, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE TERMINOLOGY; AMENDING SECTION 20-1007, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE A PROVISION REGARDING A VIOLATION OF THE CONDITIONS OF PAROLE; AMENDING SECTION 20-1008, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE TERMINOLOGY; AMENDING SECTION 67-2601, IDAHO CODE, AS AMENDED BY SECTION 2, CHAPTER 182, LAWS OF 2023, AND BY SECTION 33, CHAPTER 220, LAWS OF 2023, TO PROVIDE FOR THE COMMIS-SION OF PARDONS AND PAROLE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 19-2513, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

19-2513. UNIFIED SENTENCE. (1) Whenever any person is convicted of having committed a felony, the court shall, unless it shall commute the sentence, suspend or withhold judgment and sentence or grant probation, as provided in chapter 26, title 19, Idaho Code, or unless it shall impose the death sentence as provided by law, sentence such offender to the custody of the state board of correction. The court shall specify a minimum period of confinement and may specify a subsequent indeterminate period of custody. The court shall set forth in its judgment and sentence the minimum period of confinement and the subsequent indeterminate period, if any, provided, that the aggregate sentence shall not exceed the maximum provided by law. During a minimum term of confinement, the offender shall not be eligible for parole or discharge or credit or reduction of sentence for good conduct except for meritorious service except as provided in section 20-101D, Idaho Code, or for medical parole as provided in section 20-1006, Idaho Code. The offender may be considered for parole or discharge at any time during the indeterminate period of the sentence and as provided in section 20-1006, Idaho Code.

(2) If the offense carries a mandatory minimum penalty as provided by statute, the court shall specify a minimum period of confinement consistent with such statute. If the offense is subject to an enhanced penalty as provided by statute, or if consecutive sentences are imposed for multiple offenses, the court shall, if required by statute, direct that the enhancement or each consecutive sentence contain a minimum period of confinement; in such event, all minimum terms of confinement shall be served before any indeterminate periods commence to run.

- (3) Enactment of this amended section shall not affect the prosecution, adjudication or punishment of any felony committed before the effective date of enactment.
- SECTION 2. That Section 19-2715, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 19-2715. MINISTERIAL ACTIONS RELATING TO STAYS OF EXECUTION, RESETTING EXECUTION DATES, AND ORDER FOR EXECUTION OF JUDGMENT OF DEATH. (1) Hereafter, no further stays of execution shall be granted to persons sentenced to death except that a stay of execution shall be granted during an appeal taken pursuant to section 19-2719, Idaho Code, during the automatic review of judgments imposing the punishment of death provided by section 19-2827, Idaho Code, by order of a federal court or as part of a commutation proceeding pursuant to section 20-1015 20-1016, Idaho Code.
- (2) Upon remittitur or mandate after a sentence of death has been affirmed, the state shall apply for a warrant from the district court in which the conviction was had, authorizing execution of the judgment of death. Upon such application, the district court shall set a new execution date not more than thirty (30) days thereafter.
- (3) If a stay of execution is granted pursuant to subsection (1) of this section and, as a result, no execution takes place on the date set by the district court, upon termination of the stay, the state shall apply for another warrant and, upon such application, the district court shall set a new execution date not more than thirty (30) days thereafter.
- (4) If for any reason, other than those set forth in subsection (1) of this section, a judgment of death has not been executed, and it remains in force, the state shall apply for another warrant. Upon such application, the district court may inquire into the facts, and, if no legal reason exists against the execution of the judgment, must make an order that the warden execute the judgment at a special specified time. The warden must execute the judgment accordingly.
- (5) Action of the district court under this section is ministerial only. No hearing shall be required for setting a new execution date, and the court shall inquire only into the fact of an existing death sentence and the absence of a valid stay of execution.
- (6) For purposes of this section, the phrase "stay of execution" shall refer to a temporary postponement of an execution as a result of a court order or an order of the governor postponing the execution while a petition for commutation is pending.
- SECTION 3. That Section 20-201, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

20-201. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION CREATED. There is hereby created the department of correction, which shall consist of the state board of correction and the Idaho commission of pardons and parole. The state board of correction, as outlined in section 5, article X of the constitution of the state of Idaho, shall control, direct, and manage the department of correction consistent with the constitution of the state of Idaho and as required by law. The department of correction shall, for the purposes of section 20, article IV_T of the constitution of the state of Idaho, be an executive department of state government. The Idaho commission of pardons and parole will operate and function as outlined in chapter 10, title 20, Idaho Code, and as otherwise provided by law.

SECTION 4. That Section 20-1001, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

20-1001. DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter, unless the context clearly indicates or requires otherwise, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

(1) "Board" means the state board of correction.

- (2) "Commission" means the Idaho commission of pardons and parole, which, in addition to any other duties and powers granted to it by law, shall be the board of pardons as described in section 7, article IV of the constitution of the state of Idaho, with all rights, powers, and authority that are granted to it by the constitution of the state of Idaho.
 - (3) "Commissioner" means a member of the commission.
- $\frac{(3)}{(4)}$ "Executive director" means the executive director of the commission.

SECTION 5. That Section 20-1002, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

20-1002. COMMISSION CREATED -- APPOINTMENT -- QUALIFICATIONS -- TERMS -- MEETINGS -- COMPENSATION -- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF. (1) There is hereby created the Idaho commission of pardons and parole. The governor shall appoint a commission, each member of which shall be seven (7) commissioners, subject to the advice and consent of the senate, which shall succeed to and have all rights, powers and authority of said board of pardons as are granted and provided by the provisions of the constitution of the state of Idaho.

- (2) The commission shall be composed of seven (7) members. The members <u>Commissioners</u> shall serve at the pleasure of the governor and not more than four (4) <u>members commissioners</u> shall be from any one (1) political party.
- (3) Terms on the commission shall be for three (3) years, and vacancies in the commission for unexpired terms shall be $\underline{\text{filled}}$ by appointment by the governor for the remainder of the term $\underline{\text{and all appointees may be reappointed}}$. Commissioners may be reappointed for subsequent terms.
- (4) The commission and the board may meet as necessary to exchange such information to enable each to effectively carry out their respective duties.
- (5) The commission shall meet at such times and places as determined to be necessary and convenient, or at the call of the executive director, and in any event no less than quarterly.

(6) Two (2) commissioners may meet to make decisions on the disposition of parole violations. Such decisions must be unanimous, and in the event they are not unanimous, then the parole violation disposition decision will be made by a majority of the full commission either at the next quarterly meeting or special meeting.

- (7) Three (3) commissioners may meet to make decisions to grant or deny parole. Such decisions must be unanimous, and in the event they are not unanimous, then the decision to grant or deny parole will be made by a majority of the full commission at the next quarterly meeting.
- (8) Commissioners shall be compensated as provided by section 59-509(i), Idaho Code, when attending quarterly meetings conducted at a date and time separate from a hearing session or other meetings approved by the executive director. Commissioners shall receive compensation of three hundred dollars (\$300) per commissioner per day when conducting parole, commutation, pardon, revocation or other hearings and shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses subject to the limitations provided in section 67-2008, Idaho Code.
- (9) The governor shall appoint the executive director for the commission. The executive director shall be the full-time employee who shall report to, serve at the pleasure of, and be compensated as determined by the governor. The executive director shall be the official representative for the commission, shall be responsible for the managing and administration of daily commission business, shall assist the commission in carrying out all of its duties and powers as prescribed by law, and shall schedule business meetings and hearing sessions at times convenient to the commissioners. For each scheduled session, the executive director shall designate one (1) of the commissioners as the presiding officer for conducting the hearings. The executive director may hire such staff and employees as are approved by the governor. The executive director shall also have such other duties and responsibilities as the governor shall assign.
- SECTION 6. That Section 20-1003, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 20-1003. COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETINGS LAW -- EXECUTIVE SESSIONS AUTHORIZED -- REPORT REQUIRED. (1) All meetings and hearings of the commission shall be held in accordance with the open meetings law as provided in chapter 2, title 74, Idaho Code, except:
 - (a) An initial review of an application for a request for parole, pardon, commutation or firearm restoration may be held in executive session. The executive session shall be limited to a decision as to whether a hearing should be granted;
 - (b) When a hearing is granted, it will be conducted in open session. Pursuant to section 74-206, Idaho Code, deliberations and voting concerning the granting, revoking, reinstating or refusing of paroles; the granting or denying of pardons or commutations; or the granting or denying of firearm restorations shall be made in executive session;
 - (c) Votes of individual members <u>commissioners</u> in arriving at the parole, pardon, firearm restoration or commutation decisions shall not be made public, provided that the commission shall maintain a record of the

votes of the individual members <u>commissioners</u> as required in subsection (3) of this section; and

- (d) Meetings of less than a majority of the commission to make decisions concerning the grant or denial of parole or the disposition of parole violations as provided in section 20-1002, Idaho Code.
- (2) In order to satisfy the requirements of section 74-203(5), Idaho Code, when the commission meets using telecommunications devices, the executive director may designate an employee of the commission to be present at the physical location of the meeting.
- (3) A written record of the vote to grant or deny parole, pardon, firearm restoration or commutation by each commission member commissioner in each case reviewed by that member commissioner shall be made by the commission. The record produced by the commission pursuant to this section shall be kept confidential and privileged from disclosure, provided the record shall be made available, upon request, to the governor or the governor's representative, the chairman and most senior minority member of the senate judiciary and rules committee, and the chairman and most senior minority member of the house of representatives judiciary, rules and administration committee, for all lawful purposes. All committee members and representatives of the governor's office shall keep such record confidential. Distribution of the report by a commissioner or an employee of the executive director to any person not specifically listed in this section shall be a misdemeanor.
- (4) Nothing contained in this section shall prevent any person from obtaining the results of any parole, pardon, firearm restoration or commutation action by the commission without reference to the manner in which any member individual commissioner voted, and the commission shall make such information public information.
- (5) Nothing contained in this section shall prevent the executive director or designated staff of the executive director from attending any meeting, including an executive session of the commission.
- (6) Nothing contained in this section shall prevent the governor, the governor's representative, the chairman and most senior minority member of the senate judiciary and rules committee, and the chairman and most senior minority member of the house of representatives judiciary, rules and administration committee from attending any meeting, including an executive session of the commission.
- SECTION 7. That Section 20-1004, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 20-1004. DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE COMMISSION. The commission shall:
- (1) Have the powers relating to commutation, pardon and remission of fines and forfeitures as set forth in section 7, article IV_{7} of the Idaho constitution;
- (2) Subject to and consistent with the provisions of this chapter and section 19-2513, Idaho Code, decide whether any prisoner who is eligible for parole may be released on parole;
- (3) Subject to and consistent with the provisions of section 7, article IV_{τ} of the constitution of the state of Idaho; chapter 2, title 20, Idaho Code; and section 19-2513, Idaho Code; and in compliance with chapter 52, ti-

tle 67, Idaho Code, <u>have the authority to</u> promulgate rules to establish the procedures to carry out the provisions of this chapter, including procedures under which any eligible prisoner may be released on parole;

- (4) Specify in writing the conditions of parole for every prisoner released on parole and provide every prisoner released on parole with a copy of the conditions of parole;
- (5) Subject to and consistent with the provisions of this chapter, issue orders of final discharge from parole for eligible parolees; and
- (6) Carry out all other duties and powers relating to the commission as set forth in Idaho Code.

SECTION 8. That Section 20-1005, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 20-1005. RULES GOVERNING PAROLE -- LEGISLATIVE INTENT -- RESTRICTIONS -- REQUIRED PSYCHIATRIC OR PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION -- REQUIRED REPORT. (1) It is the intent of the legislature to focus prison space on those who commit the most serious offenses or who have the highest likelihood of offending in the future, and the commission, consistent with the provisions of this subsection, shall promulgate rules that establish clear guidelines and procedures that retain the commission's discretion in individual cases.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of section 20-1004, Idaho Code, the commission shall have the power to establish rules under which any prisoner, excepting any under sentence of death, may be allowed to go upon parole but to remain while on parole in the legal custody and under the control of the board and subject to be taken back into confinement at the direction of the commission.
- (3) Any prisoner who is granted parole under the interstate compact may be required to post a bond prior to release or prior to such acceptance under the interstate compact; such bond may be posted by the prisoner, the prisoner's family, or other interested party. Failure to successfully complete parole may be grounds for forfeiture of the bond. Upon successful completion of parole, the amount of the bond may be returned, less an amount for administrative costs as determined by commission rule, in compliance with chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code. A request shall be made for return of the bond within one (1) year of discharge of the offense for which the particular offender was serving parole. Funds collected through the bonding process will be placed in a separate commission receipts fund that is hereby created in the state treasury and utilized for the extradition of parole violators.
- (4) No person serving a sentence for rape, incest, committing a lewd act upon a child, or with an intent or an assault with intent to commit any such crimes, or serving a sentence for sexual abuse of an animal or sexual abuse of human remains, or whose history and conduct indicate to the commission that the person is a sexually dangerous person, shall be released on parole except upon the examination and evaluation of one (1) or more psychiatrists or psychologists or mental health professionals designated for this purpose by the department to be selected by the commission, and such evaluation shall be duly considered by the commission in making its parole determination. The commission may, in its discretion, likewise require a similar examination and evaluation for persons serving sentences for crimes other than those described in this subsection. No person making such evaluation shall be held

financially responsible to any person for denial of parole by the commission or for the results of the future acts of such person if granted parole.

- (5) Before considering the parole of any prisoner, the commission shall ensure that a risk assessment has been conducted pursuant to section 20-224, Idaho Code, and shall afford the prisoner the opportunity to be interviewed by the commission, a commissioner, or other commission staff designated by the executive director. A designated report and risk assessment, prepared by commission staff or a designated department of correction employee, that is specifically to be used by the commission in making a parole determination shall be exempt from public disclosure; such reports contain information from the presentence investigation report, medical or psychological information, the results of a risk assessment, victim information, designated confidential witness information, and criminal history information. A parole shall be ordered when, in the discretion of the commission, it is in the best interests of society and the commission believes the prisoner is able and willing to fulfill the obligations of a law-abiding citizen. Such determination shall not be a reward of clemency, and it shall not be considered to be a reduction of sentence or a pardon. The commission may also by its rules fix the times and conditions under which any application denied may be reconsidered. No action may be maintained against the commission or any of its members individual commissioner in any court in connection with any decision taken by the commission to parole a prisoner, and neither the commission nor its members any individual commissioner shall be liable in any way for its action with respect thereto.
- (6) In making any parole or commutation decision with respect to a prisoner, the commission shall consider the current risk assessment, criminal history, program participation, compliance and completion, institutional misconduct, and other individual characteristics related to the likelihood of offending in the future, as well as the compliance of the prisoner with any order of restitution that may have been entered according to section 19-5304, Idaho Code. The commission may make compliance with such an order of restitution a condition of parole.
- (7) Except as provided in section 20-1004(3), Idaho Code, no provision of chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code, shall apply to the commission.
- (8) By February 1 of each year, the department and the commission shall submit a report to the governor, the senate judiciary and rules committee, and the house of representatives judiciary, rules, and administration committee that describes the most common reasons for delay or denial of release, including statistical data supporting the conclusions of the report.
- SECTION 9. That Section 20-1007, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

20-1007. CONDITIONS OF PAROLE TO BE SPECIFIED IN WRITING -- WARRANT FOR ARREST OF SUSPECTED VIOLATORS -- EFFECT OF SUSPENSION AND ARREST. (1) The commission, in releasing a person on parole, shall specify in writing the conditions of parole, and a copy of such conditions shall be given to the person paroled. The commission shall include in the conditions of parole a requirement that the defendant enter into and comply with an agreement of supervision with the board of correction. The agreement of supervision shall include provisions setting forth the potential sanctions for a violation of

the conditions imposed and potential rewards for compliance with the conditions imposed, as such sanctions and rewards are set forth in rules of the board.

(2) Whenever the commission finds that a parolee may have violated the conditions of parole, the written order of the commission, signed by a member or members of the commission a majority of the full commission, by a unanimous panel of three (3) commissioners, or by the executive director, shall be sufficient warrant for any law enforcement officer to take into custody such person, and it is hereby made the duty of all sheriffs, police, constables, parole and probation officers, prison officials and other peace officers to execute such order. Such warrant shall serve to suspend the person's parole until a determination on the merits of the allegations of the violation has been made pursuant to a revocation hearing. From and after the issuance of the warrant and suspension of the parole of any convicted person and until arrest, the parolee shall be considered a fugitive from justice. Such person so recommitted, except as provided in section 20-1010, Idaho Code, must serve out the sentence, and the time during which such prisoner was out on parole shall not be deemed a part thereof, unless the commission, in its discretion, shall determine otherwise, but nothing herein contained shall prevent the commission from again paroling such prisoners at its discretion.

SECTION 10. That Section 20-1008, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

20-1008. PAROLE REVOCATION HEARING. (1) Whenever a paroled prisoner is accused of a violation of parole, other than by absconding supervision or the commission of, and conviction for, a felony or misdemeanor offense under the laws of this state, or any other state, or any federal laws, the parolee shall be entitled to a fair and impartial hearing of such charges within thirty (30) days from the date the accused is served with the charges of the violation of conditions of parole subsequent to arrest and detention. The hearing shall be held before one (1) or more members of the commission commissioners or before an impartial hearings officer selected by the executive director. Such hearing shall be held at a place or places, within this state, reasonably near the site of the alleged violation or violations of parole. If the parolee has been supervised outside of the state of Idaho and such violations occurred outside of Idaho, the executive director or hearing officer shall determine the location of the hearing.

(2) Whenever a paroled prisoner is accused of a violation of parole by absconding supervision or the commission of, and conviction for, a felony or misdemeanor offense under the laws of this state, or any other state, or any federal laws, the parolee shall be entitled to a fair and impartial hearing within a reasonable time from the date the accused is served with such charges. The location of such hearing shall be determined by the executive director or hearing officer.

SECTION 11. That Section 67-2601, Idaho Code, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 182, Laws of 2023, and by Section 33, Chapter 220, Laws of 2023, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

67-2601. DEPARTMENT CREATED -- ORGANIZATION. (1) There is hereby created the department of self-governing agencies. The department shall, for the purposes of section 20, article IV of the constitution of the state of Idaho, be an executive department of the state government.

(2) The department shall consist of the following:

- (a) Agricultural commodity commissions: Idaho apple commission, as provided by chapter 36, title 22, Idaho Code; Idaho bean commission, as provided by chapter 29, title 22, Idaho Code; Idaho beef council, as provided by chapter 29, title 25, Idaho Code; Idaho cherry commission, as provided by chapter 37, title 22, Idaho Code; Idaho dairy products commission, as provided by chapter 31, title 25, Idaho Code; Idaho pea and lentil commission, as provided by chapter 35, title 22, Idaho Code; Idaho potato commission, as provided by chapter 12, title 22, Idaho Code; Idaho wheat commission, as provided by chapter 33, title 22, Idaho Code; and Idaho alfalfa and clover seed commission, as provided in chapter 42, title 22, Idaho Code.
- (b) The board of commissioners of the Idaho state bar, as provided by chapter 4, title 3, Idaho Code.
- (c) The board of examiners, pursuant to section 67-2001, Idaho Code.
- (d) The division of veterans services, to be headed by a division administrator who shall be a nonclassified employee exempt from the provisions of chapter 53, title 67, Idaho Code. The administrator of the division shall administer the provisions of chapter 2, title 65, Idaho Code, and chapter 9, title 66, Idaho Code, with the advice of the veterans affairs commission established under chapter 2, title 65, Idaho Code, and shall perform such additional duties as are imposed upon him by law.
- (e) The board of library commissioners, pursuant to section 33-2502, Idaho Code.
- (f) The Idaho state historical society, pursuant to section 67-4123, Idaho Code.
- (g) The office of the state appellate public defender, pursuant to chapter 59, title 19, Idaho Code, and the office of the state public defender, pursuant to chapter 60, title 19, Idaho Code.
- (h) The division of occupational and professional licenses, which is hereby created.
- (i) The office of administrative hearings, pursuant to section 67-5280, Idaho Code.
- (j) The Idaho commission of pardons and parole, pursuant to chapter 10, title 20, Idaho Code.
- (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the governor shall have the authority to assign entities listed in subsection (2) of this section to divisions, sections, or units in such a manner as will tend to provide an orderly arrangement in the administrative organization of state government.

SECTION 12. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after July 1, 2024.