

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE BILL NO. 115

BY REPRESENTATIVES ARMES AND WOOTON

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

JUVENILE PROCEDURE: Provides with respect to juvenile parole eligibility

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 15:574.4(B), relative to juvenile parole eligibility; to provide  
3 with respect to juvenile parole eligibility; to provide for parole eligibility for  
4 juveniles sentenced to life imprisonment; to provide for exceptions; to provide for  
5 certain conditions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 15:574.4(B) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §574.4. Parole; eligibility

9 \* \* \*

10 B.(1) No person shall be eligible for parole consideration who has been  
11 convicted of armed robbery and denied parole eligibility under the provisions of R.S.  
12 14:64. ~~No Except as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, no~~ prisoner  
13 serving a life sentence shall be eligible for parole consideration until his life sentence  
14 has been commuted to a fixed term of years. No prisoner sentenced as a serial sexual  
15 offender shall be eligible for parole. No prisoner may be paroled while there is  
16 pending against him any indictment or information for any crime suspected of having  
17 been committed by him while a prisoner. Notwithstanding any other provisions of  
18 law to the contrary, a person convicted of a crime of violence and not otherwise  
19 ineligible for parole shall serve at least eighty-five percent of the sentence imposed,  
20 before being eligible for parole. The victim or victim's family shall be notified

1 whenever the offender is to be released provided that the victim or victim's family  
2 has completed a Louisiana victim notice and registration form as provided in R.S.  
3 46:1841 et seq., or has otherwise provided contact information and has indicated to  
4 the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Crime Victims Services Bureau,  
5 that they desire such notification.

6 (2) Any person serving a sentence of life imprisonment who was under the  
7 age of eighteen years at the time of the commission of the offense, except for a  
8 person serving a life sentence for a conviction of first degree murder (R.S. 14:30) or  
9 second degree murder (R.S. 14:30.1), shall be eligible for parole consideration upon  
10 serving thirty-five years of the sentence imposed if all of the following conditions  
11 have been met:

12 (a) The offender has not committed any disciplinary offense in the twelve  
13 consecutive months prior to the parole eligibility date.

14 (b) The offender has completed the mandatory minimum of one hundred  
15 hours of prerelease programming in accordance with R.S. 15:827.1.

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

17 (d) The offender has obtained a GED, unless the offender has previously  
18 obtained a high school diploma or is deemed by a certified educator as being  
19 incapable of obtaining a GED due to a learning disability. If the offender is deemed  
20 incapable of obtaining a GED, the offender shall complete at least one of the  
21 following:

22 (i) A literacy program.

23 (ii) An adult basic education program.

24 (iii) A job skills training program.

25 (e) The offender has obtained a low-risk level designation determined by a  
26 validated risk assessment instrument approved by the secretary of the Department  
27 of Public Safety and Corrections.

28 (f) The offender has completed a reentry program to be determined by the  
29 Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

