

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE BILL NO. 531

BY REPRESENTATIVE HONORE

PAROLE: Reduces length of time that must be served by certain offenders before becoming parole eligible

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 15:574.4(B), relative to parole eligibility; to amend provisions
3 of law regarding parole eligibility for crimes of violence; and to provide for related
4 matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

7 §574.4. Parole; eligibility

8 * * *

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

1 and registration form as provided in R.S. 46:1841 et seq., or has otherwise provided
 2 contact information and has indicated to the Department of Public Safety and
 3 Corrections, Crime Victims Services Bureau, that they desire such notification.

4 * * *

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)]

Honore

HB No. 531

Abstract: Amends parole eligibility provisions for crimes of violence, reducing the length of time certain offenders must serve before becoming parole eligible.

Present law provides for the following listing of crimes designated as crimes of violence: solicitation for murder, first degree murder, second degree murder, manslaughter, aggravated battery, second degree battery, aggravated assault, mingling harmful substances, aggravated rape, forcible rape, simple rape, sexual battery, aggravated sexual battery, intentional exposure to AIDS virus, aggravated kidnapping, second degree kidnapping, simple kidnapping, aggravated arson, aggravated criminal damage to property, aggravated burglary, armed robbery, first degree robbery, simple robbery, purse snatching, extortion, assault by drive-by shooting, aggravated crime against nature, carjacking, illegal use of weapons or dangerous instrumentalities, aggravated second degree battery, aggravated assault upon a peace officer with a firearm, aggravated assault with a firearm, armed robbery, use of firearm, aggravated robbery, disarming of a peace officer, stalking, second degree cruelty to juveniles, aggravated flight from an officer, terrorism, battery of a correctional facility employee, battery of a police officer, and aggravated incest.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that a person convicted of a crime of violence and not otherwise ineligible for parole shall serve at least 85% of the sentence imposed before being eligible for parole.

Proposed law changes present law to provide that a person convicted of a crime of violence not otherwise ineligible for parole shall serve 50% of the sentence imposed before being eligible for parole.

(Amends R.S. 15:574.4(B))