

HOUSE BILL 394

By Garrett

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;
Title 37; Title 38; Title 39; Title 40 and Title 41,
relative to the criminal justice system.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-35-501, is amended by deleting the first sentence of subdivision (h)(1) and substituting instead the following:

Release eligibility for a defendant committing the offense of first degree murder on or after November 1, 1989, but prior to July 1, 1995, who receives a sentence of imprisonment for life occurs after service of sixty percent (60%) of sixty (60) years less sentence credits earned and retained by the defendant, but in no event shall a defendant sentenced to imprisonment for life be eligible for parole until the defendant has served a minimum of twenty-five (25) full calendar years of the sentence, notwithstanding the governor's power to reduce prison overcrowding pursuant to title 41, chapter 1, part 5, any sentence reduction credits authorized by § 41-21-236, or any other provision of law relating to sentence credits.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.