

## Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB449

**House of Origin**     Introduced     Substitute     Engrossed

**Second House**     In Committee     Substitute     Enrolled

**2. Patron:**    Marsden

**3. Committee:** Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services.

**5. Summary:** Provides that any person sentenced to a term of life imprisonment or who has a cumulative term of active sentences that total more than 20 years, regardless of whether such sentences were imposed during a single sentencing hearing or multiple sentencing hearings, for a single felony offense or multiple felony offenses committed while that person was a juvenile and who has served at least 20 consecutive years of incarceration, including any period of commitment in a juvenile correctional center, shall be eligible for parole. Under current law, any period of commitment in a juvenile correctional center for any sentences for such juvenile offender is not considered as a portion of the minimum of 20 years of incarceration served in order for such offender to be eligible for parole.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary (See Item 8 below)

**8. Fiscal Implications:** Currently, any person sentenced to a term of life imprisonment for a single felony or multiple felonies committed while the person was a juvenile and who has served at least 20 years of such sentence is eligible for parole and any person who has active sentences that total more than 20 years for a single felony or multiple felonies committed while the person was a juvenile and who has served at least 20 years of such sentences is eligible for parole. The Virginia Parole Board (VPB) reviews and decide the case of each prisoner who is eligible for parole.

Under the proposed bill, any person sentenced to a term of life imprisonment or who has a cumulative term of active sentences that total more than 20 years, regardless of whether such sentences were imposed during a single sentencing hearing or multiple sentencing hearings, for a single felony or multiple felonies committed while the person was a juvenile and who has served at least 20 consecutive years of such sentence or sentences, including any period of commitment, even if for separate offenses, in a juvenile correctional center, would be eligible for parole. The VPB would review and decide the case of each prisoner who is eligible for parole.

According to the VPB, as of December 29, 2023, there are approximately 489 prisoners who would be eligible under the provisions of the bill.

According to DOC, this bill would require changes to CORIS, which DOC uses to track offender data including parole eligibility status. The one-time cost to make the changes is \$120,000, which is expected to be absorbed by DOC.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Corrections, Virginia Parole Board.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

**11. Other Comments:** None