

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

SENATE BILL NO.665

By: Jech

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to pardon and parole; amending 57 O.S. 2011, Section 332.7, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 117, O.S.L. 2018 (57 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 332.7), which relates to consideration for parole; directing certain action upon denial; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 2011, Section 332.7, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 117, O.S.L. 2018 (57 O.S. Supp. 2018, Section 332.7), is amended to read as follows:

Section 332.7. A. For a crime committed prior to July 1, 1998, any person in the custody of the Department of Corrections shall be eligible for consideration for parole at the earliest of the following dates:

1. Has completed serving one-third (1/3) of the sentence;
2. Has reached at least sixty (60) years of age and also has served at least fifty percent (50%) of the time of imprisonment that would have been imposed for that offense pursuant to the applicable matrix, provided in Sections 598 through 601, Chapter 133, O.S.L.

1 1997; provided, however, no inmate serving a sentence for crimes  
2 listed in Schedules A, S-1, S-2 or S-3 of Section 6, Chapter 133,  
3 O.S.L. 1997, or serving a sentence of life imprisonment without  
4 parole shall be eligible to be considered for parole pursuant to  
5 this paragraph;

6 3. Has reached eighty-five percent (85%) of the midpoint of the  
7 time of imprisonment that would have been imposed for an offense  
8 that is listed in Schedule A, B, C, D, D-1, S-1, S-2 or S-3 of  
9 Section 6, Chapter 133, O.S.L. 1997, pursuant to the applicable  
10 matrix; provided, however, no inmate serving a sentence of life  
11 imprisonment without parole shall be eligible to be considered for  
12 parole pursuant to this paragraph; or

13 4. Has reached seventy-five percent (75%) of the midpoint of  
14 the time of imprisonment that would have been imposed for an offense  
15 that is listed in any other schedule, pursuant to the applicable  
16 matrix; provided, however, no inmate serving a sentence of life  
17 imprisonment without parole shall be eligible to be considered for  
18 parole pursuant to this paragraph.

19 B. For a crime committed on or after July 1, 1998, and before  
20 November 1, 2018, any person in the custody of the Department of  
21 Corrections shall be eligible for consideration for parole who has  
22 completed serving one-third (1/3) of the sentence; provided,  
23 however, no inmate serving a sentence of life imprisonment without  
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1 parole shall be eligible to be considered for parole pursuant to  
2 this subsection.

3 C. For a crime committed on or after November 1, 2018, any  
4 person in the custody of the Department of Corrections shall be  
5 eligible for parole after serving one-fourth (1/4) of the sentence  
6 or consecutive sentences imposed, according to the following  
7 criteria:

8 1. A person eligible for parole under this subsection shall be  
9 eligible for administrative parole under subsection R of this  
10 section once the person serves one-fourth (1/4) of the sentence or  
11 consecutive sentences imposed; provided, however, no inmate serving  
12 a sentence of life imprisonment without parole, a sentence for a  
13 violent crime as set forth in Section 571 of this title or any crime  
14 enumerated in Section 13.1 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes  
15 shall be eligible for administrative parole.

16 2. A person eligible for parole under this subsection shall be  
17 eligible for parole once the person serves one-fourth (1/4) of the  
18 sentence or consecutive sentences imposed; provided, however no  
19 inmate serving a sentence of life imprisonment without parole is  
20 eligible for parole.

21 D. The parole hearings conducted for persons pursuant to  
22 paragraph 3 of subsection A of this section or for any person who  
23 was convicted of a violent crime as set forth in Section 571 of this  
24 title and who is eligible for parole consideration pursuant to

1 paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section, subsection B or  
2 paragraph 2 of subsection C of this section shall be conducted in  
3 two stages, as follows:

4 1. At the initial hearing, the Pardon and Parole Board shall  
5 review the completed report submitted by the staff of the Board and  
6 shall conduct a vote regarding whether, based upon that report, the  
7 Board decides to consider the person for parole at a subsequent  
8 meeting of the Board; and

9 2. At the subsequent meeting, the Board shall hear from any  
10 victim or representatives of the victim that want to contest the  
11 granting of parole to that person and shall conduct a vote regarding  
12 whether parole should be recommended for that person.

13 E. Any inmate who has parole consideration dates calculated  
14 pursuant to subsection A, B or C of this section may be considered  
15 up to two (2) months prior to the parole eligibility date. Except  
16 as otherwise directed by the Pardon and Parole Board, any person who  
17 has been considered for parole and was denied parole or who has  
18 waived consideration shall not be reconsidered for parole:

19 1. Within three (3) years of the denial or waiver, if the  
20 person was convicted of a violent crime, as set forth in Section 571  
21 of this title, and was eligible for consideration pursuant to  
22 paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section, subsection B of this  
23 section or paragraph 2 of subsection C of this section, unless the  
24 person is within one (1) year of discharge; or

1        2. Until the person has served at least one-third (1/3) of the  
2 sentence imposed, if the person was eligible for consideration  
3 pursuant to paragraph 3 of subsection A of this section. Thereafter  
4 the person shall not be considered more frequently than once every  
5 three (3) years, unless the person is within one (1) year of  
6 discharge.

7        F. If the Pardon and Parole Board denies parole, the Board  
8 shall state on the record the reason for denial.

9        G. If the Board denies parole for any person convicted of a  
10 crime other than those set forth in Section 13.1 of Title 21 of the  
11 Oklahoma Statutes, the Board shall suggest a course of remediation  
12 for the inmate in preparation for the next parole consideration.

13        H. Any person in the custody of the Department of Corrections  
14 for a crime committed prior to July 1, 1998, who has been considered  
15 for parole on a docket created for a type of parole consideration  
16 that has been abolished by the Legislature shall not be considered  
17 for parole except in accordance with this section.

18        ~~G.~~ I. The Pardon and Parole Board shall promulgate rules for  
19 the implementation of subsections A, B and C of this section. The  
20 rules shall include, but not be limited to, procedures for  
21 reconsideration of persons denied parole under this section and  
22 procedure for determining what sentence a person eligible for parole  
23 consideration pursuant to subsection A of this section would have  
24 received under the applicable matrix.

1       ~~H.~~ J. The Pardon and Parole Board shall not recommend to the  
2 Governor any person who has been convicted of three or more felonies  
3 arising out of separate and distinct transactions, with three or  
4 more incarcerations for such felonies, unless such person shall have  
5 served the lesser of at least one-third (1/3) of the sentence  
6 imposed, or ten (10) years; provided, that whenever the population  
7 of the prison system exceeds ninety-five percent (95%) of the  
8 capacity as certified by the State Board of Corrections, the Pardon  
9 and Parole Board may, at its discretion, recommend to the Governor  
10 for parole any person who is incarcerated for a nonviolent offense  
11 not involving injury to a person and who is within six (6) months of  
12 his or her statutory parole eligibility date.

13       ~~I.~~ K. Inmates sentenced to consecutive sentences shall not be  
14 eligible for parole consideration on any such consecutive sentence  
15 until one-third (1/3) of the consecutive sentence has been served or  
16 where parole has been otherwise limited by law, until the minimum  
17 term of incarceration has been served as required by law. Unless  
18 otherwise ordered by the sentencing court, any credit for jail time  
19 served shall be credited to only one offense.

20       ~~J.~~ L. The Pardon and Parole Board shall consider the prior  
21 criminal record of inmates under consideration for parole  
22 recommendation or granting of parole.

23       ~~K.~~ M. In the event the Board grants parole for a nonviolent  
24 offender who has previously been convicted of an offense enumerated

1 in Section 13.1 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes or Section 571  
2 of this title, such offender shall be subject to nine (9) months  
3 postimprisonment supervision upon release.

4 ~~H.~~ N. It shall be the duty of the Pardon and Parole Board to  
5 cause an examination to be made at the penal institution where the  
6 person is assigned, and to make inquiry into the conduct and the  
7 record of the said person during his custody in the Department of  
8 Corrections, which shall be considered as a basis for consideration  
9 of said person for recommendation to the Governor for parole.

10 However, the Pardon and Parole Board shall not be required to  
11 consider for parole any person who has completed the time period  
12 provided for in this subsection if the person has participated in a  
13 riot or in the taking of hostages, or has been placed on escape  
14 status, while in the custody of the Department of Corrections. The  
15 Pardon and Parole Board shall adopt policies and procedures  
16 governing parole consideration for such persons.

17 ~~M.~~ O. Any person in the custody of the Department of  
18 Corrections who is convicted of an offense not designated as a  
19 violent offense by Section 571 of this title, is not a citizen of  
20 the United States and is subject to or becomes subject to a final  
21 order of deportation issued by the United States Department of  
22 Justice shall be considered for parole to the custody of the United  
23 States Immigration and Naturalization Service for continuation of  
24 deportation proceedings at any time subsequent to reception and

1 processing through the Department of Corrections. No person shall  
2 be considered for parole under this subsection without the  
3 concurrence of at least three members of the Pardon and Parole  
4 Board. The vote on whether or not to consider such person for  
5 parole and the names of the concurring Board members shall be set  
6 forth in the written minutes of the meeting of the Board at which  
7 the issue is considered.

8 ~~N.~~ P. Upon application of any person convicted and sentenced by  
9 a court of this state and relinquished to the custody of another  
10 state or federal authorities pursuant to Section 61.2 of Title 21 of  
11 the Oklahoma Statutes, the Pardon and Parole Board may determine a  
12 parole consideration date consistent with the provisions of this  
13 section and criteria established by the Pardon and Parole Board.

14 ~~O.~~ Q. All references in this section to matrices or schedules  
15 shall be construed with reference to the provisions of Sections 6,  
16 598, 599, 600 and 601, Chapter 133, O.S.L. 1997.

17 ~~P.~~ R. Any person in the custody of the Department of  
18 Corrections who is convicted of a felony sex offense pursuant to  
19 Section 582 of this title who is paroled shall immediately be placed  
20 on intensive supervision.

21 ~~Q.~~ S. A person in the custody of the Department of Corrections  
22 whose parole consideration date is calculated pursuant to subsection  
23 B or C of this section, and is not serving a sentence of life  
24 imprisonment without parole or who is not convicted of an offense



1 designated as a violent offense by Section 571 of this title or any  
2 crime enumerated in Section 13.1 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma  
3 Statutes shall be eligible for administrative parole under  
4 subsection R of this section.

5 ~~R.~~ T. The Pardon and Parole Board shall, by majority vote,  
6 grant administrative parole to any person in the custody of the  
7 Department of Corrections if:

8 1. The person has substantially complied with the requirements  
9 of the case plan established pursuant to Section 512 of this title;

10 2. A victim, as defined in Section 332.2 of this title, or the  
11 district attorney speaking on behalf of a victim, has not submitted  
12 an objection;

13 3. The person has not received a primary class X infraction  
14 within two (2) years of the parole eligibility date;

15 4. The person has not received a secondary class X infraction  
16 within one (1) year of the parole eligibility date; or

17 5. The person has not received a class A infraction within six  
18 (6) months of the parole eligibility date.

19 ~~S.~~ U. Any person granted parole pursuant to subsection R of  
20 this section shall be released from the institution at the time of  
21 the parole eligibility date of the person as calculated under  
22 subsection B or C of this section.

23 ~~T.~~ V. No less than ninety (90) days prior to the parole  
24 eligibility date of the person, the Department shall notify the  
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1 Pardon and Parole Board in writing of the compliance or  
2 noncompliance of the person with the case plan and any infractions  
3 committed by the person.

4 ~~U.~~ W. The Pardon and Parole Board shall not be required to  
5 conduct a hearing before granting administrative parole pursuant to  
6 subsection R of this section.

7 ~~V.~~ X. Any person who is not granted administrative parole shall  
8 be otherwise eligible for parole pursuant to this section.

9 ~~W.~~ Y. Any person who is granted administrative parole under  
10 subsection R of this section shall be supervised and managed by the  
11 Department of Corrections in the same manner as a parolee who has  
12 been granted parole pursuant to this section. The person shall be  
13 subject to all of the rules and regulations of parole.

14 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.  
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