

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 24, 2026

3 SENATE BILL NO. 1255

By: Jech of the Senate

4 and

5 Newton of the House

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7  
8 An Act relating to pardons and paroles; amending 57  
9 O.S. 2021, Section 332.18, which relates to placement  
10 on the Pardon and Parole Board docket for medical  
11 reason; requiring medical director of the Department  
of Corrections to make certain request; updating  
statutory language and reference; and providing an  
effective date.

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

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 57 O.S. 2021, Section 332.18, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Section 332.18. A. ~~The Director of the Department of~~  
18 ~~Corrections~~ medical director of the Department of Corrections shall  
19 ~~have the authority~~ make a request to ~~request~~ the Executive Director  
20 of the Pardon and Parole Board to place an inmate on the Pardon and  
21 Parole Board docket for a medical reason, out of the normal  
22 processing procedures. Documentation of the medical condition of  
23 such inmate shall be certified by the medical director of the  
24 Department of Corrections. The Pardon and Parole Board shall have

1 the authority to bring any such inmate before the Board at any time,  
2 except as otherwise provided in subsection B of this section.

3 B. When a request is made for a medical parole review of an  
4 inmate who is dying or is near death or is medically frail or is  
5 medically vulnerable as defined in subsection F of this section as  
6 certified by the medical director of the Department of Corrections  
7 or whose medical condition has rendered the inmate no longer an  
8 unreasonable threat to public safety, the Executive Director shall  
9 place such inmate on the first available parole review docket for a  
10 compassionate parole consideration. Inmates who meet the criteria  
11 set out in this section are not subject to the two-stage hearing  
12 process in subsection D of Section 332.7 of this title.

13 C. No person shall be eligible for consideration for medical  
14 parole without the concurrence of at least three members of the  
15 Pardon and Parole Board. The vote on whether or not to consider  
16 such person for parole and the names of the concurring Board members  
17 shall be set forth in the written minutes of the meeting of the  
18 Board at which the issue is considered.

19 D. In the event that it is determined that the continuation of  
20 the medical parole presents an increased risk to the public, the  
21 parolee shall be subject to parole revocation. In such case, the  
22 Department of Corrections shall follow the revocation procedure for  
23 violators of parole set forth in Section 516 of this title.

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1 E. The provisions of this section shall not apply to inmates  
2 serving a sentence of life without possibility of parole.

3 F. As used in this section:

4 1. "Medically frail" means an individual with a medical  
5 condition which precludes the individual from performing two or more  
6 activities of daily living on ~~their~~ his or her own;

7 2. "Medically vulnerable" means an individual with one or more  
8 medical conditions which ~~makes~~ make the individual more likely to  
9 contract an illness or disease while incarcerated that could lead to  
10 death or cause an individual to become medically frail. The  
11 provisions of this ~~subsection~~ paragraph shall only apply during a  
12 catastrophic health emergency as declared by the Governor of this  
13 state pursuant to the provisions of Section 6403 of Title 63 of the  
14 Oklahoma Statutes;

15 3. "Medical condition" includes, but is not limited to,  
16 debilitating health conditions occurring as a result of the  
17 following:

18 a. disabling mental disorders including dementia,  
19 Alzheimer's disease, or similar degenerative brain  
20 disorders,

21 b. ~~Human Immunodeficiency Virus~~ human immunodeficiency  
22 virus (HIV) or ~~Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome~~  
23 acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS),

24 c. cancer,

- 1 d. cardiovascular disease,  
2 e. chronic lung disease or asthma,  
3 f. diabetes,  
4 g. hepatitis C,  
5 h. seizure disorders,  
6 i. inmates receiving ~~life-sustaining~~ life-sustaining care  
7 such as feeding tubes or colostomy bags,  
8 j. disabling neurological disorders such as multiple  
9 sclerosis (MS) or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS),  
10 or  
11 k. any other condition related to a weakened immune  
12 system or condition that requires or is expected to  
13 require specialty care or recurrent hospitalizations;

14 4. "Activities of daily living" means basic personal care and  
15 everyday activities including tasks such as eating, toileting,  
16 grooming, dressing, bathing, and transferring from one physical  
17 position to another including moving from a reclining position to a  
18 sitting or standing position, ~~7~~ that a person cannot perform on his or  
19 her own; and

20 5. "Dying" or "near death" means an individual with a medical  
21 condition ~~and~~ who has an estimated life expectancy of six (6) months  
22 or less.  
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1 G. Victim notification shall be provided ~~as provided in~~  
2 pursuant to Section 332.2 of this title and as required by Article 2  
3 II, Section 34 of the Oklahoma Constitution.

4 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.

5 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY  
6 February 24, 2026 - DO PASS  
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