

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 SENATE BILL 1255

By: Jech

6 AS INTRODUCED

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

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

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

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

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

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

5. "Dying" or "near death" means an individual with a medical condition and who has an estimated life expectancy of six (6) months or less.

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.

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