

## Department of Planning and Budget 2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number: SB 1152**

House of Origin    ☐ Introduced    ☒ Substitute    ☒ Engrossed  
Second House    ☒ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Enrolled

**2. Patron: Marsden**

**3. Committee: House Courts of Justice**

**4. Title: Eligibility for parole**

**5. Summary:**

Under current law, any person convicted of a felony offense committed on or after January 1, 1995, is not eligible for parole.

The proposed legislation would provide two exceptions to that prohibition, making any inmate, who was convicted for an offense or offenses committed while he or she was a juvenile and falling into either of the following categories, eligible for parole:

- Sentenced to a life term for a single felony or multiple felonies and has served at least 25 years of that sentence; or
- Has active sentences that total more than 25 years for a single felony or multiple felonies and has served at least 25 years of such sentences.

The legislation also directs the Parole Board to adopt rules, subject to approval by the Governor, providing for the granting of parole, on the basis of demonstrated maturity and rehabilitation and the lesser culpability of juvenile offenders, to offenders who qualify for parole under the provisions of the bill.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary: None.**

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

**8. Fiscal Implications:**

According to the Department of Corrections, as of June 30, 2016, no offender met all of the criteria set out in the proposed legislation and would have been eligible to be immediately considered for parole under the provisions of the proposed legislation.

According to the Department of Corrections, on June 30, 2016, there were 288 offenders who met the offense age (below 18) and sentence length (life or more than 25 years) criteria, but had not served at least 25 years of their sentence. Of that group, 55 have a life sentence.

If the legislation were enacted, each of those 288 offenders would be eligible to be considered for parole after they had served at least 25 years.

The Parole Board would be able to handle these additional cases within its current budget.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:**

Department of Corrections  
Parole Board

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** None.

**11. Other Comments:** None.

**Date:** 2/13/2017