

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 681

97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR CURLS.

Read 1st time January 8, 2014, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

4893S.011

AN ACT

To amend chapter 217, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the duties of the board of probation and parole.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 217, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new
2 section, to be known as section 217.693, to read as follows:

**217.693. 1. To encourage and assist the governor in carrying out
2 his or her constitutional responsibility, the board shall review
3 thoroughly the case history and prison record of any offender
4 incarcerated in a correctional institution who is serving a sentence of
5 more than fifteen years, including life without the possibility of parole,
6 and who:**

7 **(1) Has no prior felony conviction;**

8 **(2) Has served at least fifteen years of such sentence; and**

9 **(3) Has exhausted all of such offender's appeals, in both state
10 and federal court.**

11 **2. Except as provided under subsection 3 of this section, the
12 board, after study and review of such cases, shall prepare a report to
13 the governor with a recommendation to either grant or deny executive
14 clemency. The board shall make its report to the governor within a
15 reasonable time. This report shall also be given to each offender whose
16 case has been reviewed at the same time it is presented to the governor
17 to allow the offender to assess his or her own progress.**

18 **3. If the board determines after study and review of an offender's
19 case pursuant to subsection 1 of this section that the offender has ever
20 been physically, mentally, emotionally, or sexually abused or the
21 offender's age, maturity level and any contributing influence at the**

22 time of the offense affected the offender's judgment, then, after serving
23 at least fifteen years of such sentence, the offender shall be eligible for
24 parole.

25 4. Any offender released under this section shall be under the
26 supervision of the board for an amount of time to be determined by the
27 board.

28 5. Nothing in this section shall limit the review of any other
29 offender's case who has applied for clemency, nor shall it limit in any
30 way the governor's power to grant clemency.

31 6. The board shall consider, but not be limited to, the following
32 criteria when making its decision:

33 (1) Length of time served;

34 (2) Prison record and self-rehabilitation efforts;

35 (3) Whether the history of the case included evidence of physical,
36 mental, emotional, or sexual abuse of the offender;

37 (4) The offender's role in the perpetration of the crime and the
38 degree of violence exhibited;

39 (5) If an offer of a plea bargain was made and if so, why the
40 offender rejected or accepted the offer;

41 (6) The severity of the sentence received considering the
42 offender's role in the crime;

43 (7) The age and maturity of the offender at the time of the crime
44 and any contributing influence affecting the offender's judgment; and

45 (8) Whether the offender has given substantial thought to a
46 workable parole plan.

47 7. Any offender's case reviewed under this section shall be
48 reviewed as provided under this section every three years the offender
49 remains incarcerated.

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