

FELONY MURDER: PAROLE

House Bills 4382 and 4383
Sponsor: Rep. Nelson W. Saunders
Committee: Judiciary

Complete to 9-20-91

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILLS 4382 and 4383 AS INTRODUCED 2-26-91

House Bill 4382 would amend the corrections code (MCL 791.234 and 791.244) to place under parole board jurisdiction certain prisoners sentenced to life for first degree murder. The prisoner would be under parole board jurisdiction only if he or she was convicted of felony murder (that is, murder occurring in the course of a felony) before November 25, 1980, and neither the prisoner's intention to kill or do great bodily harm, nor a disregard of the likelihood that someone would be harmed, had been proved in the trial for felony murder. Prisoners affected by the bill would be subject to "lifer law" provisions that, among other things, require at least ten years of a sentence to be served and bar parole when the sentencing judge or his or her successor objects to the proposed parole.

House Bill 4383 would amend the section of the Michigan Penal Code (MCL 750.316) that makes a murder committed in conjunction with any of several specified crimes a first degree murder. The bill would specify that someone convicted of felony murder under this section before November 25, 1980 would be subject to the jurisdiction of the parole board as provided by Section 234 of the corrections code (MCL 791.234), which would be amended by House Bill 4382.

The bills are not tie-barred; either could take effect by itself.