

HOUSE BILL No. 5575

April 26, 2012, Introduced by Rep. Lipton and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

A bill to amend 1953 PA 232, entitled
"Corrections code of 1953,"
by amending section 34 (MCL 791.234), as amended by 2010 PA 353.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 34. (1) Except as provided in section 34a, a prisoner
2 sentenced to an indeterminate sentence and confined in a state
3 correctional facility with a minimum in terms of years other than a
4 prisoner subject to disciplinary time is subject to the
5 jurisdiction of the parole board when the prisoner has served a
6 period of time equal to the minimum sentence imposed by the court
7 for the crime of which he or she was convicted, less good time and
8 disciplinary credits, if applicable.

9 (2) Except as provided in section 34a, a prisoner subject to
10 disciplinary time sentenced to an indeterminate sentence and

1 confined in a state correctional facility with a minimum in terms
2 of years is subject to the jurisdiction of the parole board when
3 the prisoner has served a period of time equal to the minimum
4 sentence imposed by the court for the crime of which he or she was
5 convicted.

6 (3) If a prisoner other than a prisoner subject to
7 disciplinary time is sentenced for consecutive terms, whether
8 received at the same time or at any time during the life of the
9 original sentence, the parole board has jurisdiction over the
10 prisoner for purposes of parole when the prisoner has served the
11 total time of the added minimum terms, less the good time and
12 disciplinary credits allowed by statute. The maximum terms of the
13 sentences shall be added to compute the new maximum term under this
14 subsection, and discharge shall be issued only after the total of
15 the maximum sentences has been served less good time and
16 disciplinary credits, unless the prisoner is paroled and discharged
17 upon satisfactory completion of the parole.

18 (4) If a prisoner subject to disciplinary time is sentenced
19 for consecutive terms, whether received at the same time or at any
20 time during the life of the original sentence, the parole board has
21 jurisdiction over the prisoner for purposes of parole when the
22 prisoner has served the total time of the added minimum terms. The
23 maximum terms of the sentences shall be added to compute the new
24 maximum term under this subsection, and discharge shall be issued
25 only after the total of the maximum sentences has been served,
26 unless the prisoner is paroled and discharged upon satisfactory
27 completion of the parole.

1 (5) If a prisoner other than a prisoner subject to
2 disciplinary time has 1 or more consecutive terms remaining to
3 serve in addition to the term he or she is serving, the parole
4 board may terminate the sentence the prisoner is presently serving
5 at any time after the minimum term of the sentence has been served.

6 (6) A prisoner sentenced to imprisonment for life for any of
7 the following is not eligible for parole and is instead subject to
8 the provisions of section 44:

9 (a) First degree murder in violation of section 316 of the
10 Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.316.

11 (b) A violation of section 16(5) or 18(7) of the Michigan
12 penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.16 and 750.18.

13 (c) A violation of chapter XXXIII of the Michigan penal code,
14 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.200 to 750.212a.

15 (d) A violation of section 17764(7) of the public health code,
16 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.17764.

17 (e) First degree criminal sexual conduct in violation of
18 section 520b(2)(c) of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL
19 750.520b.

20 (f) Any other violation for which parole eligibility is
21 expressly denied under state law.

22 (7) A prisoner sentenced to imprisonment for life, other than
23 a prisoner described in subsection (6), is subject to the
24 jurisdiction of the parole board and may be placed on parole
25 according to the conditions prescribed in subsection (8) if he or
26 she meets any of the following criteria:

27 (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b) or (c), the prisoner

1 has served 10 calendar years of the sentence for a crime committed
2 before October 1, 1992 or 15 calendar years of the sentence for a
3 crime committed on or after October 1, 1992.

4 (b) Except as provided in subsection (12), the prisoner has
5 served 20 calendar years of a sentence for violating, or attempting
6 or conspiring to violate, section 7401(2)(a)(i) of the public health
7 code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401, and has another conviction for a
8 serious crime.

9 (c) Except as provided in subsection (12), the prisoner has
10 served 17-1/2 calendar years of the sentence for violating, or
11 attempting or conspiring to violate, section 7401(2)(a)(i) of the
12 public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401, and does not have
13 another conviction for a serious crime.

14 (8) A parole granted to a prisoner under subsection (7) is
15 subject to the following conditions:

16 (a) At the conclusion of 10 calendar years of the prisoner's
17 sentence and thereafter as determined by the parole board until the
18 prisoner is paroled, discharged, or deceased, and in accordance
19 with the procedures described in subsection (9), 1 member of the
20 parole board shall interview the prisoner. The interview schedule
21 prescribed in this subdivision applies to all prisoners to whom
22 subsection (7) applies, regardless of the date on which they were
23 sentenced.

24 (b) In addition to the interview schedule prescribed in
25 subdivision (a), the parole board shall review the prisoner's file
26 at the conclusion of 15 calendar years of the prisoner's sentence
27 and every 5 years thereafter until the prisoner is paroled,

1 discharged, or deceased. A prisoner whose file is to be reviewed
2 under this subdivision shall be notified of the upcoming file
3 review at least 30 days before the file review takes place and
4 shall be allowed to submit written statements or documentary
5 evidence for the parole board's consideration in conducting the
6 file review.

7 (c) A decision to grant ~~or deny~~ parole to the prisoner shall
8 not be made until after a public hearing held in the manner
9 prescribed for pardons and commutations in sections 44 and 45.
10 Notice of the public hearing shall be given to the sentencing
11 judge, or the judge's successor in office, and parole shall not be
12 granted if the sentencing judge ~~, or the judge's successor in~~
13 ~~office,~~ files written objections to the granting of the parole
14 within 30 days ~~of receipt of~~ **AFTER RECEIVING** the notice of hearing.
15 The written objections shall be made part of the prisoner's file.

16 (d) A parole granted under subsection (7) shall be for a
17 period of not less than 4 years and subject to the usual rules
18 pertaining to paroles granted by the parole board. A parole granted
19 under subsection (7) is not valid until the transcript of the
20 record is filed with the attorney general whose certification of
21 receipt of the transcript shall be returnable to the office of the
22 parole board within 5 days. Except for medical records protected
23 under section 2157 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA
24 236, MCL 600.2157, the file of a prisoner granted a parole under
25 subsection (7) is a public record.

26 (9) An interview conducted under subsection (8)(a) is subject
27 to both of the following requirements:

1 (a) The prisoner shall be given written notice, not less than
2 30 days before the interview date, stating that the interview will
3 be conducted.

4 (b) The prisoner may be represented at the interview by an
5 individual of his or her choice. The representative shall not be
6 another prisoner. A prisoner is not entitled to appointed counsel
7 at public expense. The prisoner or representative may present
8 relevant evidence in favor of holding a public hearing as allowed
9 in subsection ~~(8)(b)~~ **(8)(C)**.

10 (10) In determining whether a prisoner convicted of violating,
11 or attempting or conspiring to violate, section 7401(2)(a)(i) of the
12 public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401, and sentenced to
13 imprisonment for life before October 1, 1998 is to be released on
14 parole, the parole board shall consider all of the following:

15 (a) Whether the violation was part of a continuing series of
16 violations of section 7401 or 7403 of the public health code, 1978
17 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, by that individual.

18 (b) Whether the violation was committed by the individual in
19 concert with 5 or more other individuals.

20 (c) Any of the following:

21 (i) Whether the individual was a principal administrator,
22 organizer, or leader of an entity that the individual knew or had
23 reason to know was organized, in whole or in part, to commit
24 violations of section 7401 or 7403 of the public health code, 1978
25 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, and whether the violation for
26 which the individual was convicted was committed to further the
27 interests of that entity.

1 (ii) Whether the individual was a principal administrator,
2 organizer, or leader of an entity that the individual knew or had
3 reason to know committed violations of section 7401 or 7403 of the
4 public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, and
5 whether the violation for which the individual was convicted was
6 committed to further the interests of that entity.

7 (iii) Whether the violation was committed in a drug-free school
8 zone.

9 (iv) Whether the violation involved the delivery of a
10 controlled substance to an individual less than 17 years of age or
11 possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance to an
12 individual less than 17 years of age.

13 (11) Except as provided in section 34a, a prisoner's release
14 on parole is discretionary with the parole board. The action of the
15 parole board in granting a parole is appealable by the prosecutor
16 of the county from which the prisoner was committed or the victim
17 of the crime for which the prisoner was convicted. The appeal shall
18 be to the circuit court in the county from which the prisoner was
19 committed, by leave of the court.

20 (12) If the sentencing judge, or his or her successor in
21 office, determines on the record that a prisoner described in
22 subsection (7)(b) or (c) sentenced to imprisonment for life for
23 violating, or attempting or conspiring to violate, section
24 7401(2)(a)(i) of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401,
25 has cooperated with law enforcement, the prisoner is subject to the
26 jurisdiction of the parole board and may be released on parole as
27 provided in subsection (7)(b) or (c) 2-1/2 years earlier than the

1 time otherwise indicated in subsection (7)(b) or (c). The prisoner
2 is considered to have cooperated with law enforcement if the court
3 determines on the record that the prisoner had no relevant or
4 useful information to provide. The court shall not make a
5 determination that the prisoner failed or refused to cooperate with
6 law enforcement on grounds that the defendant exercised his or her
7 constitutional right to trial by jury. If the court determines at
8 sentencing that the defendant cooperated with law enforcement, the
9 court shall include its determination in the judgment of sentence.

10 (13) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), an individual
11 convicted of violating, or attempting or conspiring to violate,
12 section 7401(2)(a)(i) or 7403(2)(a)(i) of the public health code,
13 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, whose offense occurred
14 before March 1, 2003, and who was sentenced to a term of years, is
15 eligible for parole after serving 20 years of the sentence imposed
16 for the violation if the individual has another serious crime or
17 17-1/2 years of the sentence if the individual does not have
18 another conviction for a serious crime, or after serving the
19 minimum sentence imposed for that violation, whichever is less.

20 (14) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), an individual
21 who was convicted of violating, or attempting or conspiring to
22 violate, section 7401(2)(a)(ii) or 7403(2)(a)(ii) of the public
23 health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, whose offense
24 occurred before March 1, 2003, and who was sentenced according to
25 those sections as they existed before March 1, 2003, is eligible
26 for parole after serving the minimum of each sentence imposed for
27 that violation or 10 years of each sentence imposed for that

1 violation, whichever is less.

2 (15) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), an individual
3 who was convicted of violating, or attempting or conspiring to
4 violate, section 7401(2)(a)(iii) or 7403(2)(a)(iii) of the public
5 health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, whose offense
6 occurred before March 1, 2003, and who was sentenced according to
7 those sections as they existed before March 1, 2003, is eligible
8 for parole after serving the minimum of each sentence imposed for
9 that violation or 5 years of each sentence imposed for that
10 violation, whichever is less.

11 (16) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), an individual
12 who was convicted of violating, or attempting or conspiring to
13 violate, section 7401(2)(a)(iv) or 7403(2)(a)(iv) of the public
14 health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7401 and 333.7403, whose offense
15 occurred before March 1, 2003, who was sentenced according to those
16 sections of law as they existed before March 1, 2003 to consecutive
17 terms of imprisonment for 2 or more violations of section
18 7401(2)(a) or 7403(2)(a), is eligible for parole after serving 1/2
19 of the minimum sentence imposed for each violation of section
20 7401(2)(a)(iv) or 7403(2)(a)(iv). This subsection applies only to
21 sentences imposed for violations of section 7401(2)(a)(iv) or
22 7403(2)(a)(iv) and does not apply if the sentence was imposed for a
23 conviction for a new offense committed while the individual was on
24 probation or parole.

25 (17) The parole board shall provide notice to the prosecuting
26 attorney of the county in which the individual was convicted before
27 granting parole to the individual under subsection (13), (14),

1 (15), or (16).

2 (18) As used in this section:

3 (a) "Serious crime" means violating or conspiring to violate
4 article 7 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.7101 to
5 333.7545, that is punishable by imprisonment for more than 4 years,
6 or an offense against a person in violation of section 83, 84, 86,
7 87, 88, 89, 316, 317, 321, 349, 349a, 350, 397, 520b, 520c, 520d,
8 520g, 529, 529a, or 530 of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328,
9 MCL 750.83, 750.84, 750.86, 750.87, 750.88, 750.89, 750.316,
10 750.317, 750.321, 750.349, 750.349a, 750.350, 750.397, 750.520b,
11 750.520c, 750.520d, 750.520g, 750.529, 750.529a, and 750.530.

12 (b) "State correctional facility" means a facility that houses
13 prisoners committed to the jurisdiction of the department.