Adopted SUBSTITUTE NO 1 FOR COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO

House Bill No. 1230

BY: Senator(s) Barnett

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

- 7 **SECTION 1.** Section 47-7-18, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 8 amended as follows:
- 9 47-7-18 (1) No inmate convicted of a sex offense as defined
- 10 by Section 45-33-23(h), a crime of violence as defined by Section
- 11 97-3-2, or both, nor an inmate who is eligible for geriatric
- 12 parole shall be released on parole without a hearing before the
- 13 Parole Board as required by Section 47-7-17. All other inmates
- 14 eliqible for parole pursuant to Section 47-7-3 * * * may, in the
- 15 discretion of the State Parole Board, be released from



- 16 incarceration to parole supervision on the inmate's parole
- 17 eligibility date, without a hearing before the board, if:
- 18 (a) The inmate has met the requirements of the parole
- 19 case plan established pursuant to Section 47-7-3.1;
- 20 (b) A victim of the offense has not requested the board
- 21 conduct a hearing;
- (c) The inmate has not received a serious or major
- 23 violation report within the past six (6) months;
- 24 (d) The inmate has agreed to the conditions of
- 25 supervision; and
- 26 (e) The inmate has a discharge plan approved by the
- 27 board.
- 28 (2) At least thirty (30) days prior to an inmate's parole
- 29 eligibility date, the department shall notify the board in writing
- 30 of the inmate's compliance or noncompliance with the case plan.
- 31 If an inmate fails to meet a requirement of the case plan, prior
- 32 to the parole eligibility date, he or she shall have a hearing
- 33 before the board to determine if completion of the case plan can
- 34 occur while in the community.
- 35 (3) Any inmate for whom there is insufficient information
- 36 for the department to determine compliance with the case plan
- 37 shall have a hearing with the board.
- 38 (4) A hearing shall be held with the board if requested by
- 39 the victim following notification of the inmate's parole release
- 40 date pursuant to Section 47-7-17.

- 41 (5) A hearing shall be held by the board if a law
 42 enforcement official from the community to which the inmate will
 43 return contacts the board or the department and requests a hearing
 44 to consider information relevant to public safety risks posed by
 45 the inmate if paroled at the initial parole eligibility date. The
 46 law enforcement official shall submit an explanation documenting
 47 these concerns for the board to consider.
- 48 If a parole hearing is held, the board may determine the 49 inmate has sufficiently complied with the case plan or that the incomplete case plan is not the fault of the inmate and that 50 51 granting parole is not incompatible with public safety, the board 52 may then parole the inmate with appropriate conditions. 53 board determines that the inmate has sufficiently complied with 54 the case plan but the discharge plan indicates that the inmate 55 does not have appropriate housing immediately upon release, the 56 board may parole the inmate to a transitional reentry center with 57 the condition that the inmate spends no more than six (6) months 58 in the center. If the board determines that the inmate has not 59 substantively complied with the requirement(s) of the case plan it 60 may deny parole. If the board denies parole, the board may 61 schedule a subsequent parole hearing and, if a new date is 62 scheduled, the board shall identify the corrective action the inmate will need to take in order to be granted parole. Any 63 64 inmate not released at the time of the inmate's initial parole

date shall have a parole hearing at least every year.

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SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2025.

Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

- AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 47-7-18, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
- 2 CLARIFY THAT NONVIOLENT INMATES ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE MAY, IN THE
- 3 DISCRETION OF THE STATE PAROLE BOARD, BE RELEASED FROM
- 4 INCARCERATION TO PAROLE SUPERVISION ON THE PAROLE-ELIGIBLE DATE;
- 5 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.