## REPORT OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

## MR. PRESIDENT AND MR. SPEAKER:

We, the undersigned conferees, have had under consideration the amendments to the following entitled BILL:

S. B. No. 2448: "Mississippi Earned Parole Eligibility Act"; extend repealer and authorize parole for certain juvenile homicide offenders.

We, therefore, respectfully submit the following report and recommendation:

- 1. That the House recede from its Amendment No. 1.
- 2. That the Senate and House adopt the following amendment:

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

- 8 SECTION 1. Section 1 of Chapter 479, Laws of 2021, is
- 9 brought forward as follows:
- 10 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
- 11 "Mississippi Earned Parole Eligibility Act."
- 12 **SECTION 2.** Section 47-7-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 13 amended as follows:
- 14 47-7-3. (1) Every prisoner who has been convicted of any
- 15 offense against the State of Mississippi, and is confined in the
- 16 execution of a judgment of such conviction in the Mississippi
- 17 Department of Corrections for a definite term or terms of one (1)
- 18 year or over, or for the term of his or her natural life, whose
- 19 record of conduct shows that such prisoner has observed the rules
- 20 of the department, and who has served the minimum required time

- 21 for parole eligibility, may be released on parole as set forth
- 22 herein:
- 23 (a) Habitual offenders. Except as provided by Sections
- 99-19-81 through 99-19-87, no person sentenced as a confirmed and
- 25 habitual criminal shall be eligible for parole;
- 26 (b) **Sex offenders.** Any person who has been sentenced
- 27 for a sex offense as defined in Section 45-33-23(h) shall not be
- 28 released on parole except for a person under the age of nineteen
- 29 (19) who has been convicted under Section 97-3-67;
- 30 (c) Capital offenders. No person sentenced for the
- 31 following offenses shall be eligible for parole:
- 32 (i) Capital murder committed on or after July 1,
- 33 1994, as defined in Section 97-3-19(2);
- 34 (ii) Any offense to which an offender is sentenced
- 35 to life imprisonment under the provisions of Section 99-19-101; or
- 36 (iii) Any offense to which an offender is
- 37 sentenced to life imprisonment without eligibility for parole
- 38 under the provisions of Section 99-19-101, whose crime was
- 39 committed on or after July 1, 1994;
- 40 (d) Murder. No person sentenced for murder in the
- 41 first degree, whose crime was committed on or after June 30, 1995,
- 42 or murder in the second degree, as defined in Section 97-3-19,
- 43 shall be eligible for parole;

- 44 (e) **Human trafficking.** No person sentenced for human
- 45 trafficking, as defined in Section 97-3-54.1, whose crime was
- 46 committed on or after July 1, 2014, shall be eligible for parole;
- 47 (f) **Drug trafficking.** No person sentenced for
- 48 trafficking and aggravated trafficking, as defined in Section
- 49 41-29-139(f) through (q), shall be eliqible for parole;
- 50 (g) Offenses specifically prohibiting parole release.
- 51 No person shall be eligible for parole who is convicted of any
- 52 offense that specifically prohibits parole release;
- 53 (h) (i) Offenders eligible for parole consideration
- 54 for offenses committed after June 30, 1995. Except as provided in
- 55 paragraphs (a) through (g) of this subsection, offenders may be
- 56 considered eligible for parole release as follows:
- 1. Nonviolent crimes. All persons sentenced
- 58 for a nonviolent offense shall be eligible for parole only after
- 59 they have served twenty-five percent (25%) or ten (10) years,
- 60 whichever is less, of the sentence or sentences imposed by the
- 61 trial court. For purposes of this paragraph, "nonviolent crime"
- 62 means a felony not designated as a crime of violence in Section
- 63 97-3-2.
- 64 2. **Violent crimes.** A person who is sentenced
- 65 for a violent offense as defined in Section 97-3-2, except robbery
- 66 with a deadly weapon as defined in Section 97-3-79, drive-by
- 67 shooting as defined in Section 97-3-109, and carjacking as defined
- 68 in Section 97-3-117, shall be eliqible for parole only after

- 69 having served fifty percent (50%) or twenty (20) years, whichever
- 70 is less, of the sentence or sentences imposed by the trial court.
- 71 Those persons sentenced for robbery with a deadly weapon as
- 72 defined in Section 97-3-79, drive-by shooting as defined in
- 73 Section 97-3-109, and carjacking as defined in Section 97-3-117,
- 74 shall be eligible for parole only after having served sixty
- 75 percent (60%) or twenty-five (25) years, whichever is less, of the
- 76 sentence or sentences imposed by the trial court.
- 77 3. Nonviolent and nonhabitual drug offenses.
- 78 A person who has been sentenced to a drug offense pursuant to
- 79 Section 41-29-139(a) through (d), whose crime was committed after
- 30 June 30, 1995, shall be eligible for parole only after he has
- 81 served twenty-five percent (25%) or ten (10) years, whichever is
- 82 less, of the sentence or sentences imposed.
- 83 (ii) Parole hearing required. All persons
- 84 eligible for parole under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph (h)
- 85 who are serving a sentence or sentences for a crime of violence,
- 86 as defined in Section 97-3-2, shall be required to have a parole
- 87 hearing before the Parole Board pursuant to Section 47-7-17, prior
- 88 to parole release.
- 89 (iii) **Geriatric parole.** Notwithstanding the
- 90 provisions in subparagraph (i) of this paragraph (h), a person
- 91 serving a sentence who has reached the age of sixty (60) or older
- 92 and who has served no less than ten (10) years of the sentence or
- 93 sentences imposed by the trial court shall be eliqible for parole.

- 94 Any person eligible for parole under this subparagraph (iii) shall
- 95 be required to have a parole hearing before the board prior to
- 96 parole release. No inmate shall be eliqible for parole under this
- 97 subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph (h) if:
- 98 1. The inmate is sentenced as a habitual
- 99 offender under Sections 99-19-81 through 99-19-87;
- 100 2. The inmate is sentenced for a crime of
- 101 violence under Section 97-3-2;
- 102 3. The inmate is sentenced for an offense
- 103 that specifically prohibits parole release;
- 104 4. The inmate is sentenced for trafficking in
- 105 controlled substances under Section 41-29-139(f);
- 106 5. The inmate is sentenced for a sex crime;
- 107 or
- 108 6. The inmate has not served one-fourth (1/4)
- 109 of the sentence imposed by the court.
- 110 (iv) Parole consideration as authorized by the
- 111 trial court. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of
- 112 this subsection, any offender who has not committed a crime of
- 113 violence under Section 97-3-2 and has served twenty-five percent
- 114 (25%) or more of his sentence may be paroled by the State Parole
- 115 Board if, after the sentencing judge or if the sentencing judge is
- 116 retired, disabled or incapacitated, the senior circuit judge
- 117 authorizes the offender to be eligible for parole consideration;
- 118 or if the senior circuit judge must be recused, another circuit

- 119 judge of the same district or a senior status judge may hear and
- 120 decide the matter. A petition for parole eligibility
- 121 consideration pursuant to this subparagraph (iv) shall be filed in
- 122 the original criminal cause or causes, and the offender shall
- 123 serve an executed copy of the petition on the District Attorney.
- 124 The court may, in its discretion, require the District Attorney to
- 125 respond to the petition.
- 126 (2) The State Parole Board shall, by rules and regulations,
- 127 establish a method of determining a tentative parole hearing date
- 128 for each eligible offender taken into the custody of the
- 129 Department of Corrections. The tentative parole hearing date
- 130 shall be determined within ninety (90) days after the department
- 131 has assumed custody of the offender. Except as provided in
- 132 Section 47-7-18, the parole hearing date shall occur when the
- 133 offender is within thirty (30) days of the month of his parole
- 134 eligibility date. Any parole eligibility date shall not be
- 135 earlier than as required in this section.
- 136 (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an inmate
- 137 shall not be eligible to receive earned time, good time or any
- 138 other administrative reduction of time which shall reduce the time
- 139 necessary to be served for parole eligibility as provided in
- 140 subsection (1) of this section.
- 141 (4) Any inmate within forty-eight (48) months of his parole
- 142 eligibility date and who meets the criteria established by the
- 143 classification board shall receive priority for placement in any

- 144 educational development and job-training programs that are part of
- 145 his or her parole case plan. Any inmate refusing to participate
- 146 in an educational development or job-training program, including,
- 147 but not limited to, programs required as part of the case plan,
- 148 shall be in jeopardy of noncompliance with the case plan and may
- 149 be denied parole.
- 150 (5) In addition to other requirements, if an offender is
- 151 convicted of a drug or driving under the influence felony, the
- 152 offender must complete a drug and alcohol rehabilitation program
- 153 prior to parole, or the offender shall be required to complete a
- 154 postrelease drug and alcohol program as a condition of parole.
- 155 (6) Except as provided in subsection (1)(a) through (h) of
- 156 this section, all other persons shall be eligible for parole after
- 157 serving twenty-five percent (25%) of the sentence or sentences
- 158 imposed by the trial court, or, if sentenced to thirty (30) years
- or more, after serving ten (10) years of the sentence or sentences
- 160 imposed by the trial court.
- 161 (7) The Corrections and Criminal Justice Oversight Task
- 162 Force established in Section 47-5-6 shall develop and submit
- 163 recommendations to the Governor and to the Legislature annually on
- 164 or before December 1st concerning issues relating to juvenile and
- 165 habitual offender parole reform and to review and monitor the
- 166 implementation of Chapter 479, Laws of 2021.
- 167 (8) The amendments contained in Chapter 479, Laws of 2021,
- 168 shall apply retroactively from and after July 1, 1995.

- 169 (9) Notwithstanding provisions to the contrary in this
- 170 section, a person who was sentenced before July 1, 2021, may be
- 171 considered for parole if the person's sentence would have been
- 172 parole eligible before July 1, 2021.
- 173 (10) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, \* \* \*
- 174 2027.
- SECTION 3. Section 47-7-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 176 amended as follows:
- 177 47-7-5. (1) The State Parole Board, created under former
- 178 Section 47-7-5, is hereby created, continued and reconstituted and
- 179 shall be composed of five (5) members. The Governor shall appoint
- 180 the members with the advice and consent of the Senate. All terms
- 181 shall be at the will and pleasure of the Governor. Any vacancy
- 182 shall be filled by the Governor, with the advice and consent of
- 183 the Senate. The Governor shall appoint a chairman of the board.
- 184 (2) Any person who is appointed to serve on the board shall
- 185 possess at least a bachelor's degree or a high school diploma and
- 186 four (4) years' work experience. Each member shall devote his
- 187 full time to the duties of his office and shall not engage in any
- 188 other business or profession or hold any other public office. A
- 189 member shall receive compensation or per diem in addition to his
- 190 or her salary. Each member shall keep such hours and workdays as
- 191 required of full-time state employees under Section 25-1-98.
- 192 Individuals shall be appointed to serve on the board without
- 193 reference to their political affiliations. Each board member,

194	including the chairman, may be reimbursed for actual and necessary
195	expenses as authorized by Section 25-3-41. Each member of the
196	board shall complete annual training developed based on guidance
197	from the National Institute of Corrections, the Association of
198	Paroling Authorities International, or the American Probation and
199	Parole Association. Each first-time appointee of the board shall,
200	within sixty (60) days of appointment, or as soon as practical,
201	complete training for first-time Parole Board members developed in
202	consideration of information from the National Institute of
203	Corrections, the Association of Paroling Authorities
204	International, or the American Probation and Parole Association.

- (3) The board shall have exclusive responsibility for the granting of parole as provided by Sections 47-7-3 and 47-7-17 and shall have exclusive authority for revocation of the same. The board shall have exclusive responsibility for investigating clemency recommendations upon request of the Governor.
- (4) The board, its members and staff, shall be immune from civil liability for any official acts taken in good faith and in exercise of the board's legitimate governmental authority.
- (5) The budget of the board shall be funded through a separate line item within the general appropriation bill for the support and maintenance of the department. Employees of the department which are employed by or assigned to the board shall work under the guidance and supervision of the board. There shall be an executive secretary to the board who shall be responsible

- 219 for all administrative and general accounting duties related to
- 220 the board. The executive secretary shall keep and preserve all
- 221 records and papers pertaining to the board.
- 222 (6) The board shall have no authority or responsibility for
- 223 supervision of offenders granted a release for any reason,
- 224 including, but not limited to, probation, parole or executive
- 225 clemency or other offenders requiring the same through interstate
- 226 compact agreements. The supervision shall be provided exclusively
- 227 by the staff of the Division of Community Corrections of the
- 228 department.
- (7) (a) The Parole Board is authorized to select and place
- 230 offenders in an electronic monitoring program under the conditions
- 231 and criteria imposed by the Parole Board. The conditions,
- 232 restrictions and requirements of Section 47-7-17 and Sections
- 47-5-1001 through 47-5-1015 shall apply to the Parole Board and
- 234 any offender placed in an electronic monitoring program by the
- 235 Parole Board.
- 236 (b) Any offender placed in an electronic monitoring
- 237 program under this subsection shall pay the program fee provided
- 238 in Section 47-5-1013. The program fees shall be deposited in the
- 239 special fund created in Section 47-5-1007.
- 240 (c) The department shall have absolute immunity from
- 241 liability for any injury resulting from a determination by the
- 242 Parole Board that an offender be placed in an electronic
- 243 monitoring program.

- 244 (8) (a) The Parole Board shall maintain a central registry
- 245 of paroled inmates. The Parole Board shall place the following
- 246 information on the registry: name, address, photograph, crime for
- 247 which paroled, the date of the end of parole or flat-time date and
- 248 other information deemed necessary. The Parole Board shall
- 249 immediately remove information on a parolee at the end of his
- 250 parole or flat-time date.
- (b) When a person is placed on parole, the Parole Board
- 252 shall inform the parolee of the duty to report to the parole
- 253 officer any change in address ten (10) days before changing
- 254 address.
- 255 (c) The Parole Board shall utilize an Internet website
- 256 or other electronic means to release or publish the information.
- 257 (d) Records maintained on the registry shall be open to
- 258 law enforcement agencies and the public and shall be available no
- 259 later than July 1, 2003.
- 260 (9) An affirmative vote of at least four (4) members of the
- 261 Parole Board shall be required to grant parole to an inmate
- 262 convicted of capital murder or a sex crime.
- 263 (10) This section shall stand repealed on July 1, \* \* \*
- 264 2027.
- SECTION 4. Section 47-7-3.1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 266 brought forward as follows:
- 267 47-7-3.1. (1) In consultation with the Parole Board, the
- 268 department shall develop a case plan for all parole-eligible

- 269 inmates to guide an inmate's rehabilitation while in the
- 270 department's custody and to reduce the likelihood of recidivism
- 271 after release.
- 272 (2) The case plan shall include, but not be limited to:
- 273 (a) Programming and treatment requirements based on the
- 274 results of a risk and needs assessment;
- 275 (b) Any programming or treatment requirements contained
- 276 in the sentencing order; and
- (c) General behavior requirements in accordance with
- 278 the rules and policies of the department.
- 279 (3) With respect to parole-eligible inmates admitted to the
- 280 department's custody on or after July 1, 2021, the department
- 281 shall complete the case plan within ninety (90) days of admission.
- 282 With respect to parole-eligible inmates admitted to the
- 283 department's custody before July 1, 2021, the department shall
- 284 complete the case plan by January 1, 2022.
- 285 (4) The department shall provide the inmate with a written
- 286 copy of the case plan and the inmate's caseworker shall explain
- 287 the conditions set forth in the case plan.
- 288 (a) Within ninety (90) days of admission, the
- 289 caseworker shall notify the inmate of their parole eligibility
- 290 date as calculated in accordance with Section 47-7-3(3);
- 291 (b) At the time a parole-eligible inmate receives the
- 292 case plan, the department shall send the case plan to the Parole
- 293 Board for approval.

- 294 With respect to parole-eligible inmates admitted to the 295 department's custody after July 1, 2021, the department shall 296 ensure that the case plan is achievable prior to the inmate's 297 parole eligibility date. With respect to parole-eligible inmates 298 admitted to the department's custody before July 1, 2021, the 299 department shall, to the extent possible, ensure that the case 300 plan is achievable prior to the inmate's parole eligibility date 301 or next parole hearing date, or date of release, whichever is 302 sooner.
- 303 (6) The caseworker shall meet with the inmate every eight 304 (8) weeks from the date the offender received the case plan to 305 review the inmate's case plan progress.
- 306 (7) Every four (4) months the department shall
  307 electronically submit a progress report on each parole-eligible
  308 inmate's case plan to the Parole Board. The board may meet to
  309 review an inmate's case plan and may provide written input to the
  310 caseworker on the inmate's progress toward completion of the case
  311 plan.
- 312 (8) The Parole Board shall provide semiannually to the
  313 Oversight Task Force the number of parole hearings held, the
  314 number of prisoners released to parole without a hearing and the
  315 number of parolees released after a hearing.
- 316 (9) If the Department of Corrections fails to adequately 317 provide opportunity and access for the completion of such case 318 plans, the Department of Corrections shall, to the extent

- 319 possible, contract with regional jail facilities that offer
- 320 educational development and job-training programs to facilitate
- 321 the fulfillment of the case plans of parole-eligible inmates.
- 322 **SECTION 5.** Section 47-7-3.2, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 323 brought forward as follows:
- 324 47-7-3.2. (1) Notwithstanding Section 47-5-138, 47-5-139,
- 325 47-5-138.1 or 47-5-142, no person convicted of a criminal offense
- 326 on or after July 1, 2014, shall be released by the department
- 327 until he or she has served no less than the percentage of the
- 328 sentence or sentences imposed by the court as set forth below:
- 329 (a) Twenty-five percent (25%) or ten (10) years,
- 330 whichever is less, for a nonviolent crime;
- 331 (b) Fifty percent (50%) or twenty (20) years, whichever
- 332 is less, for a crime of violence pursuant to Section 97-3-2,
- 333 except for robbery with a deadly weapon as defined in Section
- 334 97-3-79, drive-by shooting as defined in Section 97-3-109, or
- 335 carjacking as defined in Section 97-3-117;
- 336 (c) Sixty percent (60%) or twenty-five (25) years,
- 337 whichever is less, for robbery with a deadly weapon as defined in
- 338 Section 97-3-79, drive-by shooting as defined in Section 97-3-109,
- 339 or carjacking as defined in Section 97-3-117.
- 340 (2) This section shall not apply to:
- 341 (a) Offenders sentenced to life imprisonment;
- 342 (b) Offenders convicted as habitual offenders pursuant
- 343 to Sections 99-19-81 through 99-19-87;

344	(c) Offenders serving a sentence for a sex offense; or
345	(d) Offenders serving a sentence for trafficking
346	pursuant to Section 41-29-139(f).
347	SECTION 6. Section 47-7-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
348	brought forward as follows:
349	47-7-15. The board shall adopt an official seal of which the
350	courts shall take judicial notice. Decisions of the board shall
351	be made by majority vote, except as provided in Section 47-7-5(9).
352	The board shall keep a record of its acts and shall notify
353	each institution of its decisions relating to the persons who are
354	or have been confined therein. At the close of each fiscal year
355	the board shall submit to the Governor and to the Legislature a
356	report with statistical and other data of its work.
357	SECTION 7. Section 47-7-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
358	brought forward as follows:
359	47-7-17. (1) Within one (1) year after his admission and at
360	such intervals thereafter as it may determine, the board shall
361	secure and consider all pertinent information regarding each
362	offender, except any under sentence of death or otherwise
363	ineligible for parole, including the circumstances of his offense,
364	his previous social history, his previous criminal record,
365	including any records of law enforcement agencies or of a youth
366	court regarding that offender's juvenile criminal history, his
367	conduct, employment and attitude while in the custody of the
368	department, the case plan created to prepare the offender for

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parole, and the reports of such physical and mental examinations
as have been made. The board shall furnish at least three (3)
months' written notice to each such offender of the date on which
he is eligible for parole.

373 Except as provided in Section 47-7-18, the board shall 374 require a parole-eliqible offender to have a hearing as required 375 in this chapter before the board and to be interviewed. 376 hearing shall be held no later than thirty (30) days prior to the 377 month of eligibility. No application for parole of a person convicted of a capital offense shall be considered by the board 378 379 unless and until notice of the filing of such application shall 380 have been published at least once a week for two (2) weeks in a 381 newspaper published in or having general circulation in the county 382 in which the crime was committed. The board shall, within thirty 383 (30) days prior to the scheduled hearing, also give notice of the 384 filing of the application for parole to the victim of the offense 385 for which the prisoner is incarcerated and being considered for 386 parole or, in case the offense be homicide, a designee of the 387 immediate family of the victim, provided the victim or designated 388 family member has furnished in writing a current address to the 389 board for such purpose. The victim or designated family member 390 shall be provided an opportunity to be heard by the board before 391 the board makes a decision regarding release on parole. 392 shall consider whether any restitution ordered has been paid in full. Parole release shall, at the hearing, be ordered only for 393

394	the best interest of society, not as an award of clemency; it
395	shall not be considered to be a reduction of sentence or pardon.
396	An offender shall be placed on parole only when arrangements have
397	been made for his proper employment or for his maintenance and
398	care, and when the board believes that he is able and willing to
399	fulfill the obligations of a law-abiding citizen. When the board
400	determines that the offender will need transitional housing upon
401	release in order to improve the likelihood of the offender
402	becoming a law-abiding citizen, the board may parole the offender
403	with the condition that the inmate spends no more than six (6)
404	months in a transitional reentry center. At least fifteen (15)
405	days prior to the release of an offender on parole, the director
406	of records of the department shall give the written notice which
407	is required pursuant to Section 47-5-177. Every offender while on
408	parole shall remain in the legal custody of the department from
409	which he was released and shall be amenable to the orders of the
410	board. Upon determination by the board that an offender is
411	eligible for release by parole, notice shall also be given within
412	at least fifteen (15) days before release, by the board to the
413	victim of the offense or the victim's family member, as indicated
414	above, regarding the date when the offender's release shall occur,
415	provided a current address of the victim or the victim's family
416	member has been furnished in writing to the board for such
417	purpose.

- family member of the filing of the application for parole or of
  any decision made by the board regarding parole shall not
  constitute grounds for vacating an otherwise lawful parole
  determination nor shall it create any right or liability, civilly
  or criminally, against the board or any member thereof.
- 424 (4) A letter of protest against granting an offender parole 425 shall not be treated as the conclusive and only reason for not 426 granting parole.
- 427 The board may adopt such other rules not inconsistent (5) 428 with law as it may deem proper or necessary with respect to the 429 eligibility of offenders for parole, the conduct of parole 430 hearings, or conditions to be imposed upon parolees, including a 431 condition that the parolee submit, as provided in Section 47-5-601 432 to any type of breath, saliva or urine chemical analysis test, the 433 purpose of which is to detect the possible presence of alcohol or 434 a substance prohibited or controlled by any law of the State of 435 Mississippi or the United States. The board shall have the 436 authority to adopt rules related to the placement of certain 437 offenders on unsupervised parole and for the operation of 438 transitional reentry centers. However, in no case shall an 439 offender be placed on unsupervised parole before he has served a 440 minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the period of supervised parole.

- 443 47-7-18 (1) No inmate convicted of a sex offense as defined
- 444 by Section 45-33-23(h), a crime of violence as defined by Section
- 445 97-3-2, or both, nor an inmate who is eligible for geriatric
- 446 parole shall be released on parole without a hearing before the
- 447 Parole Board as required by Section 47-7-17. All other inmates
- 448 eliqible for parole pursuant to Section 47-7-3 shall be released
- 449 from incarceration to parole supervision on the inmate's parole
- 450 eligibility date, without a hearing before the board, if:
- 451 (a) The inmate has met the requirements of the parole
- 452 case plan established pursuant to Section 47-7-3.1;
- (b) A victim of the offense has not requested the board
- 454 conduct a hearing;
- 455 (c) The inmate has not received a serious or major
- 456 violation report within the past six (6) months;
- (d) The inmate has agreed to the conditions of
- 458 supervision; and
- 459 (e) The inmate has a discharge plan approved by the
- 460 board.
- 461 (2) At least thirty (30) days prior to an inmate's parole
- 462 eligibility date, the department shall notify the board in writing
- 463 of the inmate's compliance or noncompliance with the case plan.
- 464 If an inmate fails to meet a requirement of the case plan, prior
- 465 to the parole eligibility date, he or she shall have a hearing
- 466 before the board to determine if completion of the case plan can
- 467 occur while in the community.

- 468 (3) Any inmate for whom there is insufficient information 469 for the department to determine compliance with the case plan 470 shall have a hearing with the board.
- 471 (4) A hearing shall be held with the board if requested by 472 the victim following notification of the inmate's parole release 473 date pursuant to Section 47-7-17.
- 474 (5) A hearing shall be held by the board if a law
  475 enforcement official from the community to which the inmate will
  476 return contacts the board or the department and requests a hearing
  477 to consider information relevant to public safety risks posed by
  478 the inmate if paroled at the initial parole eligibility date. The
  479 law enforcement official shall submit an explanation documenting
  480 these concerns for the board to consider.
  - inmate has sufficiently complied with the case plan or that the incomplete case plan is not the fault of the inmate and that granting parole is not incompatible with public safety, the board may then parole the inmate with appropriate conditions. If the board determines that the inmate has sufficiently complied with the case plan but the discharge plan indicates that the inmate does not have appropriate housing immediately upon release, the board may parole the inmate to a transitional reentry center with the condition that the inmate spends no more than six (6) months in the center. If the board determines that the inmate has not substantively complied with the requirement(s) of the case plan it

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493	may deny parole. If the board denies parole, the board may
494	schedule a subsequent parole hearing and, if a new date is
495	scheduled, the board shall identify the corrective action the
496	inmate will need to take in order to be granted parole. Any
497	inmate not released at the time of the inmate's initial parole
498	date shall have a parole hearing at least every year.

SECTION 9. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2024.

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

AN ACT TO EXTEND THE AUTOMATIC REPEALER ON THE MISSISSIPPI EARNED PAROLE ELIGIBILITY ACT OF 2021; TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 1 OF CHAPTER 479, LAWS OF 2021; TO AMEND SECTIONS 47-7-3, 47-7-5 AND BRING FORWARD SECTIONS 47-7-3.1, 47-7-3.2, 47-7-15, 47-7-17 AND 47-7-18, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

X (SIGNED)

Barnett

X (SIGNED)

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