

By: McReynolds

H.B. No. 2938

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to certain conditions under which a parole panel may not  
3 refuse to release on parole an inmate who is otherwise eligible for  
4 release.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Section 508.141, Government Code, is amended by  
7 amending Subsection (e) and adding Subsection (e-1) to read as  
8 follows:

9 (e) Except as provided by Subsection (e-1), a [A] parole  
10 panel may release an inmate on parole only when:

11 (1) arrangements have been made for the inmate's  
12 employment or for the inmate's maintenance and care; and

13 (2) the parole panel believes that the inmate is able  
14 and willing to fulfill the obligations of a law-abiding citizen.

15 (e-1) A parole panel that considers for release on parole an  
16 inmate described by Subsection (a) and that determines the inmate  
17 is able and willing to fulfill the obligations of a law-abiding  
18 citizen shall, not later than the 45th day after making that  
19 determination, issue an order releasing the inmate on parole.

20 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies to any  
21 inmate who is confined in a facility operated by or under contract  
22 with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice on or after the  
23 effective date of this Act, regardless of when the inmate's period  
24 of confinement began.

1 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.