

By: West

S.B. No. 1883

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the factors to be considered by the Board of Pardons and Paroles in establishing parole guidelines.

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

SECTION 1. Section 508.144(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The board shall:

(1) develop according to an acceptable research method the parole guidelines that are the basic criteria on which a parole decision is made;

(2) base the guidelines on:

(A) the seriousness of the offense and the likelihood of a favorable parole outcome; and

(B) an acknowledgment that the advanced age or any physical or mental disability of an inmate may decrease the likelihood that an inmate's release would constitute a threat to public safety;

(3) ensure that the guidelines require consideration of an inmate's progress in any programs in which the inmate participated during the inmate's term of confinement; and

(4) implement the guidelines.

SECTION 2. The Board of Pardons and Paroles shall, not later than November 1, 2011, modify parole guidelines to be in conformity with Section 508.144(a), Government Code, as amended by this Act.

1           SECTION 3.   This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.