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By:  Campos H.B. No. 2395

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to individual treatment plans for inmates.

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 the seriousness of the offense and the likelihood of a favorable parole outcome;

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

(4)  establish and maintain a range of recommended parole approval rates for each category or score within the guidelines; and

(5)  implement the guidelines.

SECTION 2.  Section 508.152, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsections (b), (b-2), (c), and (e) and adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:

(b)  The department shall:

(1)  not later than the 45th day after the date an inmate is admitted to the institutional division, establish for the inmate an individual treatment plan and provide the plan to the inmate; and

(2)  submit the plan to the board at the time of the board's consideration of the inmate's case for release.

(b-2)  At least once in every 12-month period, the department shall review each inmate's individual treatment plan to assess the inmate's institutional progress and revise or update the plan as necessary. The department shall make reasonable efforts to provide an inmate the opportunity to complete any classes or programs included in the inmate's individual treatment plan[~~, other than classes or programs that are to be completed immediately~~] before the inmate's [~~release on~~] parole eligibility date[~~, in a timely manner~~] so that the inmate's release on parole is not delayed due to any uncompleted classes or programs.

(c)  The board shall conduct an initial review of an eligible inmate not later than the 180th day after the date of the inmate's admission to the institutional division. The board shall identify any classes or programs that the board intends to require the inmate to complete before the inmate's parole eligibility date [~~releasing the inmate on parole~~]. The department shall provide the inmate with a list of those classes or programs and make those classes available to the inmate before the inmate's parole eligibility date.

(e)  The institutional division shall:

(1)  work closely with the board to monitor the progress of the inmate in the institutional division; [~~and~~]

(2)  report the progress to the board before the inmate's release; and

(3)  revise the inmate's risk level to reflect the inmate's completion of programming as required by the inmate's individual treatment plan.

(g)  The department shall provide to the board a record of the inmate's progress toward completion of the inmate's individual treatment plan.

SECTION 3.  As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the Board of Pardons and Paroles shall modify the parole guidelines to be in conformity with Section 508.144(a), Government Code, as amended by this Act.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.