

**SUBJECT:** Prohibiting release to mandatory supervision for certain violent offenses

**COMMITTEE:** Corrections — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 8 ayes — Herrero, Kacal, Allen, V. Jones, R. Lopez, Sherman, Swanson, Toth  
0 nays  
1 absent — Murr

**WITNESSES:** For — Andy Kahan, Crime Stoppers Houston; Joyelle Johnson  
(*Registered, but did not testify:* James Parnell, Dallas Police Association; Jessica Anderson, Houston Police Department; Ray Hunt, HPOU; Rhonda Kuykendall, Human Trafficking Survivor Leader Council; Ashley Brooks, Texas Association Against Sexual Assault; Lauren Lluveras, Texas Council on Family Violence; Jourdan Johnson; Thomas Parkinson)  
  
Against — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Lauren Johnson, ACLU of Texas; Allen Place, Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association; Henry Bohnert; Benny Hernandez)  
  
On — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Bobby Lumpkin, Texas Department of Criminal Justice; Benny Hernandez III)

**BACKGROUND:** Some have suggested that giving the Board of Pardons and Paroles more discretion in determining parole eligibility regarding the release of certain violent offenders, particularly those whose offenses were against family members and women, could improve public safety and prevent further crimes against women.

**DIGEST:** HB 1577 would add certain offenses to the list of convictions that would prevent an inmate's release to mandatory supervision, including assault-related second-degree felonies and any assault-related offense involving:

- dating, family and household violence;

- a forced abortion; or
- a known pregnancy.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2023, and would apply only to offenses committed on or after the effective date.