

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
78R3846 GWK-D

S.B. 917
By: Whitmire
Criminal Justice
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As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, Texas has no provision that establishes a specific future date for the review of an inmate for parole purposes. As proposed, S.B. 917 allows a violent offender to receive a set off of one, two, three, four, or five years and requires a nonviolent to be reviewed annually by the Texas Board of Pardons and Parole.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 508.141, Government Code, by adding Subsection (g), to require the policy board of the Board of Pardons and Paroles (parole board) to adopt a policy establishing the date on which the parole board may reconsider for release an inmate who has previously been denied release. Requires the policy to require the parole board to reconsider for release an inmate described by Section 508.149, Government Code, at any time after the first anniversary of the date of the denial and before the fifth anniversary of the date of the denial. Requires the policy to require the parole board to reconsider for release an inmate other than described by Section 508.149, Government Code, as soon as practicable after the first anniversary of the date of the denial.

SECTION 2. Requires the policy board to adopt the reconsideration policy required by Section 508.141(g), Government Code, as added by this Act, by January 1, 2004.

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2003.