



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2003

LCO No. 6845

HB0669206845HR0

Offered by:

REP. FARR, 19th Dist.

REP. HAMZY, 78th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6692

File No. 598

Cal. No. 409

**"AN ACT ADOPTING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PRISON AND
JAIL OVERCROWDING COMMISSION."**

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. Section 54-124a of the general statutes is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2003*):

5 (a) There shall be a Board of Parole [which, on and after July 1,
6 1998,] within the Department of Correction which shall consist of
7 fifteen members, including a chairman and two vice-chairmen who
8 shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of
9 either house of the General Assembly. The chairman and vice-
10 chairmen shall be qualified by training, experience or education in law,
11 criminal justice, parole matters or other related fields for the
12 consideration of the matters before them and the other members shall
13 be qualified by training and experience for the consideration of matters
14 before them. In the appointment of the members, the Governor shall

15 endeavor to reflect the racial diversity of the state.

16 (b) The term of the chairman and the term of each vice-chairman of
17 the board shall be coterminous with the term of the Governor or until a
18 successor is chosen, whichever is later. The terms of all members,
19 except the chairman, shall expire on July 1, 1994, and on or after July 1,
20 1994, members shall be appointed in accordance with subsection (a) of
21 this section as follows: Six members shall be appointed for a term of
22 two years; and six members shall be appointed for a term of four years.
23 Thereafter, all members shall serve for terms of four years. Any
24 vacancy in the membership of the board shall be filled for the
25 unexpired portion of the term by the Governor.

26 (c) The chairman [and vice-chairmen] shall devote [their entire] full
27 time to the performance of [their] the duties hereunder and shall be
28 compensated therefor in such amount as the Commissioner of
29 Administrative Services determines, subject to the provisions of section
30 4-40. The other members of said board shall receive one hundred ten
31 dollars for each day spent in the performance of their duties and shall
32 be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of
33 such duties. The chairman or, in his absence or inability to act, a
34 member designated by him to serve temporarily as chairman, shall be
35 present at all meetings of said board and participate in all decisions
36 thereof.

37 (d) [Said chairman shall be the executive and administrative head of
38 said board and] The Commissioner of Correction shall have the
39 authority and responsibility for (1) directing and supervising all
40 administrative affairs of the board, (2) preparing the budget and
41 annual operation plan in consultation with the board, (3) assigning
42 staff to parole panels, regions and supervision offices, (4) organizing
43 parole hearing calendars to facilitate the timely and efficient
44 processing of cases, (5) implementing a uniform case filing and
45 processing system, (6) establishing policy in all areas of parole
46 including, but not limited to, decision making, release criteria and
47 supervision standards, (7) establishing specialized parole units as

48 deemed necessary, (8) entering into contracts, in consultation with the
49 board, with service providers, community programs and consultants
50 for the proper function of parole and community supervision, (9)
51 creating programs for staff and board member development, training
52 and education, (10) establishing, developing and maintaining
53 noninstitutional, community-based service programs, and (11)
54 [consulting with the Department of Correction on shared issues
55 including, but not limited to, prison overcrowding, and (12)] signing
56 and issuing subpoenas to compel the attendance and testimony of
57 witnesses at parole proceedings. Any such subpoena shall be
58 enforceable to the same extent as subpoenas issued pursuant to section
59 52-143.

60 (e) The chairman shall have the authority and responsibility for
61 assigning members to panels, each to be composed of two members
62 and the chairman or a member designated to serve temporarily as
63 chairman, for each correctional institution. Such panels shall be the
64 paroling authority for the institutions to which they are assigned and
65 not less than two members shall be present at each parole hearing.

66 (f) In the event of the temporary inability of any member other than
67 the chairman to perform his or her duties, the Governor, at the request
68 of the board, may appoint a qualified person to serve as a temporary
69 member during such period of inability.

70 (g) The Board of Parole shall: (1) Adopt an annual budget and plan
71 of operation, (2) adopt such rules as deemed necessary for the internal
72 affairs of the board, (3) develop policy for and administer the
73 operation of the Interstate Parole Compact, and (4) submit an annual
74 report to the Governor and General Assembly.

75 Sec. 502. (*Effective from passage*) The Office of Policy and
76 Management shall develop a plan for the merger of the probation
77 services unit of the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial
78 Branch with the Department of Correction. The office shall report its
79 plan to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly on the

80 judiciary not later than January 1, 2004."