



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 831

January Session, 2019



**AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS TO SPECIAL PAROLE
AND PAROLE DISCHARGE STATUTES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2019*) Prior to the Board of
2 Pardons and Paroles terminating a person's period of special parole
3 pursuant to section 54-129 of the general statutes, as amended by this
4 act, the Office of Victim Services, within the Judicial Department, shall
5 notify the victim of the crime for which the person is serving a period
6 of special parole who is registered with the Office of Victim Services
7 within the Judicial Department or registered with the Victim Services
8 Unit within the Department of Correction, of the board's intent to
9 consider the termination of such person's period of special parole. Any
10 victim may submit a statement to the board concerning whether such
11 person's period of special parole should be terminated. For the
12 purposes of this section, "victim" means a victim, as defined in section
13 54-126a of the general statutes.

14 Sec. 2. Section 54-129 of the general statutes is repealed and the
15 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

16 (a) If it appears to the appropriate panel of the Board of Pardons
17 and Paroles that any [convict or inmate] person on parole or inmate
18 eligible for parole or [on] any person serving a period of special parole

19 will lead an orderly life, the panel, by a unanimous vote, [of all the
20 members present at any regular meeting of the panel,] may (1) declare
21 such [convict] person on parole or inmate discharged from the custody
22 of the Commissioner of Correction, [and shall thereupon deliver to
23 him or her a written] or (2) at any time during such person's period of
24 special parole, terminate such period, without a court order, before
25 such person completes such period.

26 (b) Whenever any inmate has been discharged from the custody of
27 the Commissioner of Correction or whenever any person's period of
28 special parole has been terminated, the chairperson shall issue a
29 certificate to that effect under the seal of the Board of Pardons and
30 Paroles, [and signed by the chairperson of the board and the
31 commissioner.]

32 Sec. 3. Subsection (e) of section 54-124a of the general statutes is
33 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
34 *passage*):

35 (e) (1) Each parole release panel shall be composed of [two] three
36 members, [and] one of whom shall be the chairperson or a full-time
37 member designated by the chairperson to serve temporarily as
38 chairperson. [On and after January 1, 2016, not less than three
39 members shall be present at each parole hearing.]

40 (2) Each pardons panel shall be composed of three members, one of
41 whom may be the chairperson, except that for hearings on
42 commutations from the penalty of death, one member of the panel
43 shall be the chairperson.

44 (3) Each panel that discharges persons on parole from the custody of
45 the Commissioner of Correction or that terminates the period of
46 special parole for persons shall be composed of three members, one of
47 whom shall be the chairperson or a full-time member designated by
48 the chairperson to serve temporarily as chairperson.

49 Sec. 4. Subsection (f) of section 54-124a of the general statutes is

50 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
51 *passage*):

52 (f) The Board of Pardons and Paroles shall have independent
53 decision-making authority to (1) grant or deny parole in accordance
54 with sections 54-125, 54-125a, 54-125e and 54-125g, (2) establish
55 conditions of parole or special parole supervision in accordance with
56 section 54-126, (3) rescind or revoke parole or special parole in
57 accordance with sections 54-127 and 54-128, (4) grant commutations of
58 punishment or releases, conditioned or absolute, in the case of any
59 person convicted of any offense against the state and commutations
60 from the penalty of death in accordance with section 54-130a, (5)
61 discharge any person on parole or inmate eligible for parole from the
62 custody of the Commissioner of Correction pursuant to section 54-129,
63 as amended by this act, and (6) terminate special parole in accordance
64 with section 54-129, as amended by this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2019</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	54-129
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	54-124a(e)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	54-124a(f)

JUD *Joint Favorable Subst.*