

House Bill 288

By: Representatives Belton of the 112<sup>th</sup>, Efstoration of the 104<sup>th</sup>, Ballinger of the 23<sup>rd</sup>, Rich of the 97<sup>th</sup>, and Momtahan of the 17<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 9 of Title 42 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to grants of pardons, paroles, and other relief, so as to require certain minimum  
3 periods of incarceration before parole consideration; to provide for related matters; to provide  
4 an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Article 2 of Chapter 9 of Title 42 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
8 grants of pardons, paroles, and other relief, is amended by revising paragraph (2) of  
9 subsection (b) of Code Section 42-9-45, relating to general rule-making power of Board of  
10 Pardons and Paroles, as follows:

11 "(2) Except as otherwise provided in Code Sections 17-10-6.1 and 17-10-7 and  
12 paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection, an inmate serving a felony sentence or felony  
13 sentences shall only be eligible for consideration for parole after the expiration of nine  
14 months of his or her sentence or one-third of the time of the sentences, whichever is  
15 greater. Except as otherwise provided in Code Sections 17-10-6.1 and 17-10-7 and  
16 paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection, inmates serving sentences aggregating 21 years

H. B. 288

- 1 -

17 or more, imposed before July 1, 2021, shall become eligible for consideration for parole  
18 only upon completion of the service of seven years. Except as otherwise provided in  
19 Code Sections 17-10-6.1 and 17-10-7 and paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection,  
20 inmates serving sentences aggregating from 21 years up to 50 years, imposed on and after  
21 July 1, 2021, may become eligible for consideration for parole only upon completion of  
22 the minimum service of seven years; inmates serving sentences aggregating from 50  
23 years up to 75 years, imposed on or after July 1, 2021, may become eligible for  
24 consideration for parole only upon completion of the service of 15 years; and inmates  
25 serving sentences aggregating 75 years or more, imposed on or after July 1, 2021, may  
26 become eligible for consideration for parole only upon completion of the minimum  
27 service of 30 years."

28 **SECTION 2.**

29 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2021.

30 **SECTION 3.**

31 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.